



The Sun

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Thursday, April 2, 1998

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News Briefs

South Bay residents invited to help plan the city's future

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Volunteers want visit homes to seek answers to several questions.

Residents who have questions can call South Bay City Hall and speak with City Manager Michael E. Jackson or Assistant to the City Manager June H. Boglioli. The number to call is 998-6751.

The Florida Humanities Council is a non-profit organization, funded by the national Endowment for the Humanities, the State of Florida, and private contributors.

The City of South Bay was one of 12 cities awarded grants by the council.

Spaghetti dinner at Good Shepherd

Good Shepherd Church of God Sanctuary Choir invites everyone to a spaghetti dinner on Friday, April 3 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$3 for children and may be purchased from any church member or at the door. Dinner will be eaten in the fellowship hall or taken out. The church is located at 1800 Bacon Point Road in Pahokee.

Youth and churches invited to event

Local youth and churches are invited to participate in "Stand for Children Day" scheduled for June 13 at Pioneer Park.

A gospel concert will be part of the activities and all churches in the Glades are invited to bring their youth choir to participate.

For more information call Mary Harrell at 996-8087 or 996-4930, or Brenda Thomas at 996-1600 or 992-7539.

Easter adventure planned at CUMC

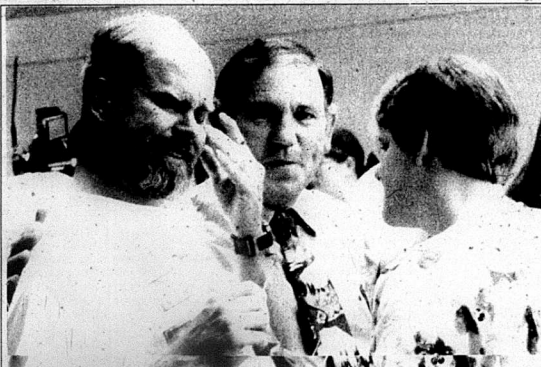
Community United Methodist Church is planning an Easter Adventure for children from five years of age. Continued on Page 2

Time Change!

Don't forget to turn your clocks back one hour before going to bed Saturday night.

Lake Level

18.35 feet above sea level
April 1, 1998



EMOTIONS WERE HIGH last Friday afternoon as a prayer service was held outside the front doors of Everglades Regional Medical Center in Pahokee. After 60 years the hospital is closing its doors due to financial problems. The emergency room and laboratory will remain open for the time being. Shown, from left are Pahokee's Mayor, John Norman, United Methodist Minister Delbert King and Debbie Norman.

Belle Glade's one-man bike patrol

By Jennie M. Sears
Staff Reporter

Be on the look-out. When you least expect it he'll be coming round the corner.

George B. Jones, Jr. is Belle Glade's new one-man Bike Patrol. He is certified from Broward Community College. Beginning April 1, two days a week, he will be riding in a neighborhood near you.

The Belle Glade Police Department has acquired this new patrol position in order to prevent crime in the neighborhoods and school areas. The Bike Patrol can get a closer view than a patrol car. If some-

one is in need of help while taking an afternoon stroll, you can be sure that Officer Jones will come to your rescue.

Officer Jones will be patrolling in the following areas: Lake Shore Park, Lake Shore Middle School, Gladesview Elementary and surrounding residential area, downtown business district, Mace Park, Gove Elementary and surrounding residential area, Belle Glade Elementary, Okeechobee Summit and surrounding residential area. He will be patrolling in each of these areas two days a week. The days will vary.

All residents are encouraged

to give a helping hand to the police department to make Belle Glade a safer place to live.

(See photo, Page 12)

Three file for Pahokee City Commission

By Brenda Bunting
Editor

Two incumbents and a newcomer to politics have filed for the upcoming Pahokee City Commission race.

Current commissioners Pete Moore, 74, and Keith Babb, 41, filed this week to run for the seats they currently hold. Both have been commissioners since May of 1992.

Henry Crawford, 51, who has never run for po-

litical office, also filed.

Four of the five city commission seats are open at this time, since former mayor, Ramon Horita resigned in January. Commissioner John Norman has been the acting mayor and says he plans to run for the position, which leaves his seat open also.

City Clerk Debra Palmer said the last day to qualify is this Friday at 5 p.m. and the election will be held May 5.

See Hospital, Page 12

Students helping other students to improve at Pioneer Park

By Katrina Elsen
Contributing Editor

"They call it 'the list.' Administrators, teachers and students are acutely aware of their school's status on the Florida Commissioner of Education's Critical Schools List.

They are embarrassed by the stigma of being on the list. They are working hard to get their schools off the list and keep them off.

Over the next few weeks, this series in The Sun will look at some of the reasons why Glades area children have scored so poorly on reading, writing and math tests in the past. We'll look at some of the changes schools have made, and at the progress they have seen from these changes.

We'll also look at ways the Palm Beach County School District, under pressure

from the State Department of Education, is now helping the Glades schools get back on track.

The elementary schools in the Glades have taken a "back to basics" approach, stressing the importance of reading, writing and math skills.

School officials say there are no easy

answers, no quick fixes.

It will take time to get the students up to national grade level in the basic skills. But they are determined to make sure the students will succeed.

Pioneer Park Elementary, which has been open only three years, has been on Florida Commissioner of Education Frank Brogan's critical

schools list from the start.

Dr. Barbara Merony said they knew when the school boundaries were drawn that they were taking students from schools already on "the list."

The school uses the Success For All, reading program, which was researched by Johns Hopkins University. Dr.

Merony said the 'reading program was "designed for schools like ours."

The program has "all the good things about reading, piled into one," she said.

For reading class, students are grouped according to ability, rather than by class or grade. Resource teachers join classroom teachers for the

reading program so the classes can be smaller.

"Everybody teaches a reading class," she said.

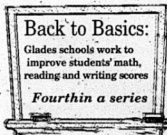
The average reading class size is 14 students. One class has only nine pupils.

Students who need extra help are tutored in small groups or one-on-one. Some of the more advanced students work as peer tutors for students who are having trouble.

"The students who do the tutoring feel so proud of themselves and the ones being tutored like it," she said.

"With this program, everybody can read," said Dr. Merony. She said when the school opened, a lot of children in the third and fourth and even fifth grades were reading on a first grade

See Pioneer Park, Page 12



Partnership needed between educators and parents

By Katrina Elsen
Contributing Editor

When it comes to education, the schools can't do it alone, say officials. Students need support and encouragement from parents to be successful in school.

"Belle Glade children come from poor neighborhoods. Students from low socio-economic backgrounds have a harder time in school," said Gove Elementary School Principal Margarita Pinks.

"You have to look at the education level of the home and what the expectations of the children are. If a parent says, 'Everyone in our family has an education,' what does that mean? Does it mean completing high school? Does it mean attending college? What are the expectations in the home?"

The lack of jobs here is a factor, say officials. Many students don't see a future for themselves and don't see education as important to their future.

"There are some very wealthy people living in Belle Glade, but the majority are poor," said Mrs. Pinks.

According to the Florida Department of Education records, at Gove Elementary, 83 percent of the students qualify for the free or reduced-price lunch program. At Belle Glade Elementary, 84 percent of the students qualify; at Pioneer Park, 86 percent; at Glade View, 85.5 percent; at Rosenwald Elementary, 81.2 percent; at K.E.C. Canal Point Elementary, 83 percent; and at Pahokee Elementary, 69.2 percent. By way of comparison, at Wellington Elementary, only 10 percent of the students are on the free or reduced-price lunch program.

"Many of these children are not prepared for school," said Mrs. Pinks. "We have kindergarten students come in and they don't know their colors. You would think children would learn their colors through normal conversation

with the parents. 'Bring me your brown shoes.' You have to wonder if anyone is even talking to these children. But with parents working, there might not be anyone in the home.

"I would like to see pre-k available for all students. Right now we have pre-k for migrants only (paid for through special funding). And the pre-k program doesn't have certified teachers, just aides."

"I would also like to have afterschool care for those who need it. Right now we only have aftercare for those who can afford to pay for it. The program has to pay for itself," she explained. (The Gove Elementary afterschool program is open until 6 p.m. and costs \$1.75 an hour per child.)

"We need to come up with ways to educate those children," said Mrs. Pinks. "Otherwise it will have a tremendous negative effect in our society."

"Maybe 40 percent of our population

doesn't have a ninth grade education," said Ted Gallo, a member of the Pahokee School Advisory Committee who has spent the past three years researching ways to improve reading skills among Pahokee students.

"They don't see the need for education," he said.

Jeanette Dexter, who has been working in the Glades area schools for 30 years, said she has seen a tremendous change in the lives of the students during that time.

"It's hard to find what we think of as a traditional family," said Mrs. Dexter, who is currently a resource teacher at Belle Glade Elementary School.

"Many of the children live with a grandmother, and the grandmother doesn't have just one child in the house to look after, she has six or seven," she said.

"Forty percent of our students are

See Partnership needed, Page 12

"I have no plans to retire," says Dr. Robert Hatton

By Brenda Bunting
Editor

It's a trivia question many Glades residents have asked and few know the answer to: Just how many babies has Pahokee Obstetrician Dr. Robert Hatton delivered in his lifetime?

Even he doesn't know the exact number, but when pressed, says he estimates he's delivered over 15,000 babies in his career. Concerned mothers-to-be and residents are now wondering how much longer he will continue his practice since Everglades Regional Medical Center in Pahokee is closing. Dr. Hatton has delivered babies there for over 35 years and that era may be ending. But he says he will continue his practice and move his delivery to Glades General Hospital in Belle Glade.

"I love doing this and I don't plan to stop. I'll continue as long as possible," he said.

Dr. Hatton's parents, Joe and Lois, came to the Glades in the early 1930s when he was just a baby. He graduated from Pahokee High School and after a stint in the Army he went to Louisiana State University to study music. After he got his music degree he had a change of heart and decided to go into medicine. While in college he met and married his wife, Marilyn on December 17, 1950, then went to Lane Medical School in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Dr. Hatton did a year of rotating service in Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami and residency in obstetrics and gynecology at the University of Miami at Jackson Memorial Hospital. He had planned to practice in Miami, but most of his family was in Pahokee and they persuaded him to come home.

"I have a large family here and my family wanted me to come back and practice here. We decided to give it a try," he said.

In 1961 he started his practice in Pahokee and he was the first medical specialist who lived in the Glades and worked here full time. He was also Pahokee's first obstetrician/gynecologist. He worked with another family physician, Dr. Potete. "We worked well together. He had a large family here too," said Dr. Hatton.

"He was the first surgeon here and we had a dream of having a specialty-type practice for the area of the Glades to provide more advanced type of care for the patients," said Dr. Hatton.

That dream didn't work out, but they did bring the first pediatrician to the area. Dr. Hatton and Dr. Potete were instrumental in getting the new hospital, Everglades Regional Medical Center built. "We were in the small hospital which was on East Main Street and we were able to get our local board to build the new hospital. Dr. Potete and I were very instrumental in the planning and building of the hospital. We worked very hard to have a very high quality of care for patients, which has been the hallmark of our work at the hospital," he said.

Everglades Memorial Hospital was later expanded and the obstetrical wing was added. "Dr. Barhoush and I were very busy. We delivered up to 125 babies a month," said Dr. Hatton. "We always took pride in the fact that we were delivering very high quality care, care that was second to none as far as equipment, nursing care, and our attention to the patient," he said.

Dr. Hatton delivered some of his own grandchildren and other family member's children.

He is proud of the fact that during his career he helped train several Glades residents who went on to careers in health care.

Dr. Hatton said, "In some areas,

patients are treated like cattle, but we don't do that here," he said. "We believe in treating every patient with dignity and respect."

The doctor has seen several changes in the pregnancy and delivery process over the years. Because of the breakthroughs in antibiotics, delivery is now done in a sterile environment. Now, fathers and other family members can be in the delivery room and witness the miracle of birth.

"Another change is that when I first started a woman did not want to know anything about her birthing process. She didn't want to be aware of what was happening, so we used a combination of drugs in labor called 'twilight sleep,'" said Dr. Hatton. "They weren't really asleep but they had amnesia and they didn't know what was going on. When they got through and woke up from it all they said, 'when am I going to have the baby?' Well, they already had," said Dr. Hatton.

Now, many women are more aware of what is happening and for those who have to have more pain relief, they use a spinal block called an epidural.

The Hattons have three adopted children, twin daughters; Lori, who lives in Pahokee and has four children, Lisa, who lives in North Palm Beach, and Bryon lives in North Palm Beach and he has one son.

Dr. Hatton, who turns 71 this year, says he is as productive as he was in his 20's and 30's and has no plans for retirement. "I plan to continue to do the same quality work at Glades General Hospital," he said.

"My philosophy is I don't deal with the past, or yesterday. I'm looking forward to today, and tomorrow, and to see what life has to hold and what accomplishments can be gained in the future and not dwell on the past," he said.



THE BABY DOCTOR... Dr. Robert Hatton has delivered over 15,000 babies during his tenure at Everglades Regional Medical Center in Pahokee. He plans to continue his practice and make deliveries at Glades General Hospital, now that Everglades has closed.

News Briefs...continued from Page 1

through sixth grade. Children are invited to take an imaginary trip to the Holy Land aboard the Lenten Airlines.

They will visit places such as "The Upper Room," "The Rooster's Roost," "Golgotha," and "The Empty Tomb," and learn first hand what happened to Jesus.

Children are invited to meet at Jameson Hall, 401 S.W. First Street on Saturday morning, April 4, from 10 a.m. to noon. There will be an educational tour of the Holy Land,

hands-on craft activities and refreshments aboard the plane's flight.

Church to hold rummage sale

The Worship Center Church, 1424 West Canal Street South, Belle Glade, will hold a rummage sale on Saturday, April 4 from 7 a.m. until noon.

Money earned from the event will be used to help Boy Scout Troop 622 to summer camp in Jupiter.

South Bay receives grant to study future development

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Nu Kappa holds "Girl of the Year" dinner

Nu Kappa Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi held its "Girl of the Year" dinner in the Island Room at the Driveway Cafe on Saturday, March 28.

Members and guests in by the chapter president, Julie Zambray. Each member was presented with a yellow rose and each officer was given their officer pin for this term. The 1997-98 Girl of the Year is

Betty Hodges. Betty was presented with a "Girl of the Year" charm and a spring flower arrangement.

Members and guests in by the chapter president, Julie Zambray. Each member was presented with a yellow rose and each officer was given their officer pin for this term. The 1997-98 Girl of the Year is

South Bay Arrest Blotter

The South Bay Police Department made five arrests, gave 40 citations, 17 written warnings, handled 15 offenses, four incidents, 57 misc. incidents and four accidents the week of March 22-28. Those arrested included:

March 22- Ralph Freeman, 22, five counts of first degree arson and five counts of burglary, **Chris Daniels**, 21, seven counts of first degree arson and seven counts of burglary, **Antonio Bess**, 22, resisting arrest and obstructing justice and contempt of court.

March 23- No arrests made.

March 24- No arrests made.

March 25- Willie Lawrence Canty, 18, possession of marijuana and possession of marijuana with intent to sell; **Paul Dundee** Bothers, 19, possession of marijuana and possession of marijuana with intent to sell.

March 26 - No arrests made.

March 27- No arrests made.

March 28- No arrests made.

Black Gold Notes

By Dianne Carter, Jubilee Chairman

Little Mr. & Miss Black Gold

The 1998 Little Mr. & Miss Black Gold contest, under the direction of Barbara Scruggs, is scheduled to be held at Tripp Hall, Glades Day School Campus, Saturday, April 18 at 4 p.m. Entry fee is \$20 and applications may be obtained at the Belle Glade Chamber of Commerce. Age categories are boys and girls ages 3 to 6, and the deadline for entry is April 13. Be sure to bring all the family to see these little ones in their best outfits and on their best behavior. Admission fee will be \$2 at the door.

Harvest Queen Contest

The Harvest Queen Contest will be held at 7:30 p.m., Friday, April 24 at the beautiful Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center, sponsored by the Belle Glade Lions Club and the Palm Beach Community College, Glades Campus. There will be a total of 13 beautiful and talented contestants, ages 16-18, vying for the title of

1998 Harvest Queen. The chair for this event is Becky White and the pageant coordinator is Cathy Lee. This event sells out quickly so don't be left out. Tickets are available at Barnett Bank for \$10.

Gospel Sing

The Gospel Sing will be presented Tuesday, April 21 at 7 p.m. at the First Baptist Church under the direction of Robin Waggoner and Cherice Bovens. Mayor Steve Weeks will lead the Blessing of the Soil to begin the service. This is an inspirational event that promises to bring you the most talented vocalists and musicians in the entire Lake Okeechobee area.

Arts & Crafts, Food Booths

Artisans and craftsmen of all kinds will be gathering to offer their handiwork for sale at the Arts & Crafts, and Food booths. Booth applications are available at city hall. For information, contact Rosa Hernandez at 996-0100. Categories include menueed food booths, which will be located in the Marina Pavilion area, booths under tents, and individual vendor-owned booths not under tents. A discount will be given to vendors who are members of the Belle Glade Chamber of Commerce.

Jubilee Cookbooks

The Jubilee's Taste of the Glades cookbooks are still available, but there are only about 100 copies left. Contact Dianne Carter at city hall to reserve your copy for the price of \$12, or see Kathy Cross at Everglades Trading Post. Any remaining cookbooks will be available for purchase at the Welcome Tent at the Jubilee.

Church holds first year celebration

Harvest A.M.E. Church held their "Year of Jubilee," celebrating one year in existence. The evening celebration included songs from local choirs.

Rev. Patricia S. Wallace said a special thank you to the community and to Jose Cabrera and the students of

the CSC wood shop, who built the chancel rail.

Church services are held at 825 Larrimore Road in Pahokee and there is a bus available for those who need transportation.

For more information, call 924-4263.

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HEALTH WATCH

AIDS patients struggle on emotional roller coaster

by Mark King

(NAPS)—With positive news about treatments for AIDS in the media, one would think the HIV/AIDS community is on the brink of an enormous celebration.

But where's the party? Having lived with HIV for more than a decade, I'm ready for one. The emotional stress of a life-threatening illness and the roller coaster of hope associated with each tidbit of promising news have taken a toll.

Scientific victories have put a wrench in the plans of those of us with HIV. The poetry of death is fading away as my chances for a long life increase—no more dying young, surrounded by friends and eulogized at a memorial I've planned for years. For all its horror, living with HIV has provided some certainty about



Mark King

of Or will I live to see Social Security dry up, leaving me broke and struggling?

As a professional AIDS educator, this past year I developed a tool known as "Reconstruction," which helps clients understand the practical and emotional fallout of getting another shot at life. This year the program will be launched nationally with a grant from Hoffmann-La Roche, manufacturers of Fortovase™, the newest AIDS

treatment.

The program underscores the creative cruelty of AIDS. Clients come feeling perplexed by public benefits and guilty over their emotional confusion. They know they should be ecstatic over their good fortune—aren't the new treatments what we've always dreamt of?—but because they ran up debt, left their careers behind and made peace with their imminent demise, they aren't sure how to see their futures beyond three-year increments.

As one participant said, "I feel like Tom Sawyer, watching his own funeral. How do I start again when everyone, including me, thought I would be dead by now?"

It is no wonder that bouts with depression are reportedly higher among this group now than before they began the new

treatment.

The shift in AIDS may have reverberations in the broader community as well. Will good news about treatments help, or hurt, donations to AIDS organizations? How many careless people have added, "They'll be able to treat this by the time I catch it," to their arsenal of excuses for risky behavior?

While the drug "cocktail" (a combination of AZT, 3TC and the new protease inhibitor drug) is encouraging news, it is also true that most people with AIDS can't afford them, and some can't tolerate the side effects.

I also know people who have stopped the drug regimens that had jump-started their lives. These clients are afraid of get-

ting too well.

For many people with AIDS, public disability funds are their only source of income and also fund the precious drugs that have extended their lives. In those cases where drugs have brought patients back to health, the patients can't afford to return to a job that will not provide insurance coverage for their AIDS treatment.

Furthermore, when they hear rumors that Social Security might kick people off their rolls because their health has "stabilized," or that Medicaid might stop paying for their drugs for the same reason, some of them are forgoing their pills "just long enough" for their blood tests to take another nose dive. It's a deadly strategy.

There are now more people living with AIDS than ever before. To serve them effectively, we need an overhaul of a

governmental disability system that was designed to take people from illness to death—without any U-turns in the middle of progress. This means expansion of programs such as Medicaid and the AIDS Drug Assistance Program. Doing so would not only extend the lives of thousands, but serve as an important dose of prevention against the development of new drug-resistant HIV strains.

With more than 40,000 new infections still occurring in the United States every year, the likelihood of another health nightmare has statistics on its side.

Such a scenario could make the losses of the last 15 years, for all their horror, little more than prologue.

Mark King is an educator with AID Atlanta. He can be reached by e-mail at kingm@aiddatlanta.org.

Hispanics and the overweight are at risk

(NAPS)—Hypertension, the medical word for high blood pressure, is a particularly serious problem for Hispanics.

Heart disease is the leading cause of death among Hispanic-Americans, and hypertension increases the risk of heart disease. When hypertension is combined with unhealthy habits such as not exercising regularly, smoking or eating a traditional high-fat diet, the results can be devastating.

According to the American Heart Association, one in every

four Cuban-American men and 16 percent of Cuban-American women have high blood pressure; among Puerto Ricans, the disease affects 16 percent of males and 12 percent of females. Among Mexican-Americans, high blood pressure affects 17 percent of men and 14 percent of women. Almost 61 percent of Mexican-Americans over age 60 have high blood pressure.

"High blood pressure is a life-threatening disease, especially among Hispanics," says Roberto M. Lang, M.D., professor of medicine at the University of Chicago Medical Center. "Lifestyle changes and drug therapy are important and necessary to reduce the risk of heart disease. Unfortunately, often Hispanics are unsure which medications are right for them, since there are few clinical studies that



focus on a drug's effectiveness specifically in the Hispanic population."

Fortunately, it can be treated. Focus on a drug's effectiveness specifically in the Hispanic population. "Fortunately, it can be treated. Focus on a drug's effectiveness specifically in the Hispanic population."

"real-world" setting by a large, diverse group of patients, including Hispanics.

The most commonly reported side effects of Altace include headache, dizziness, fatigue, dry cough and, rarely, a potentially dangerous swelling of the mouth and throat.

If you are pregnant, you should not take Altace because it can harm your unborn child. Altace belongs to a class of drugs called angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors (ACEs). When used in pregnancy during the second and third trimesters, ACEs can cause injury and even death to the developing fetus. When pregnancy is detected, Altace (as with all ACE inhibitors) should be discontinued immediately.

Doctors advise certain lifestyle changes can also help control high blood pressure. Don't just sit there.

Approximately 62 percent of Hispanic men and women have a sedentary lifestyle, that is, they get very little exercise. Any physical activity—from aerobic exercise like walking to daily housekeeping chores—can help maintain good health.

Lower your fat intake. Although it can be hard to break with traditional cooking, for Hispanics, doing so can be a lifesaver. Almost 50 percent of Mexican-Americans have high cholesterol, another risk factor for heart disease.

Quit smoking. Smoking causes nearly one fifth of heart disease-related deaths. Among Mexican-Americans, 44 percent of men and 24 percent of women smoke. Among Cuban-Americans, 45 percent of men and 24 percent of women smoke. Among Puerto Ricans, 42 percent of men and 34 per-

cent of women are smokers.

See your doctor. Hypertension is called the "silent killer" because the symptoms are not easily detected. Regular physical checkups are very important. If your doctor tells you that you have high blood pressure, it is important to follow his or her treatment recommendations.

Take your medicine. Hypertension can be well-controlled when the proper medication is taken as directed.

Belle Glade Chiropractic, Inc.
425 S.E. 2nd Street
996-7801
MWF: 9-1 & 2:30-4 • T: 9-1 • Sat 9-12

Children and "growing pains"

By Faye Brandenburg

Sometime between the ages of four and nine, your child may experience and complain of what is commonly called "growing pains." These mysterious pains occur in the legs, often at night, and may last for anywhere from minutes to hours and then disappear. These episodes usually occur several times a week and may continue for a year or more.

You might be surprised to learn that growing pains have nothing to do with growth. "Actually, a better name for the condition is simply limb pains of childhood," says Rebecca Abu, M.D. Doctors still don't have all the answers about growing pains. "In some children the pains seem to be located in the muscles, while other children get pains in the bones," notes Dr. Abu.

In many cases, growing pains may be nothing more than muscle soreness caused by overexertion of tight muscles. It's similar to how you or I might feel tomorrow if we

climbed a mountain today. "A lot of the children who experience these pains are quite active. The tight muscles don't hurt when you're doing things, but do begin to hurt when they relax at night. In other patients, who are not prone to be active, though, we really never know the cause," according to pediatrician Philip Colao.

One thing experts do know about growing pains: They're not muscle cramps. Muscle cramps are something else altogether—a severe pain, usually in a calf muscle, caused by a spasm. With cramps, you can usually see the muscle spasm. That's not the case with growing pains. Once your doctor has ruled out anything serious, like arthritis (and children can have this disease), you may need to try a number of things to find out what works for your child.

Remember, pain is scary to children, even if the cause is simply muscle strain. Explain to your child that the leg pains

are probably caused by overexertion and that they will soon pass. Reassurance is the most important thing. Kids need to know that what they're experiencing is not the result of any terrible disease. A mild analgesic such as acetaminophen (Children's Tylenol) may be all the child needs. Check the package directions for the correct dosage for your child's age and weight, or check with your physician. If a mild medicine doesn't work, check with your child's pediatrician for an alternate medication.

"Sometimes just a mother's touch, a gentle massage of the area where the pain is located, will make it feel better. Heat may be soothing, particularly if the child's pains are due to muscle soreness. A warm bath or shower, or even a heating

pad can often bring relief," according to Deborah Nussli, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner. Twenty minutes in a warm bath or under a heating pad is better than no treatment at all. However, don't leave your child unattended with a heating pad for an extended period because he might get too warm.

Leg pain in children can sometimes be a sign of a serious condition, such as rheumatoid arthritis. If your child has fever, swelling of joints or muscles, exceptional fatigue, loss of appetite or weight loss, limping or morning pains upon awakening, along with the "growing pains" in the legs, there could be more serious, underlying causes. As always, when in doubt, contact your physician and remember, children are special.

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OPINION PAGE



Feel strongly about local issues?

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To voice your opinion on any subject, call **Speak Out** at 996-6636, 24 hours a day. Readers can use this special number to pose questions, voice complaints, express opinions or pat somebody on the back. Unlike letters to the editor, **Speak Out** is designed for anonymous expression of opinions. We edit calls for clarity, brevity, relevance and fairness.

Afro Arts Festival

"I wish to **Speak Out** about the Afro Arts Festival. This festival is not like it used to be. It was boring this year. The kids were just there, they didn't have anything to do.

They didn't have any acting, no stepping or anything. They also charged too much for the booths and the booths were messed up.

From my understanding they were trying something new this year, but it didn't work out.

We'd like to thank those who put on this festival, but it needs more work.

Why should kids pay to be honored?

"I'm a concerned parent of one of the kids who is on the National Honor Society at Glades Central High School.

I feel it is wrong for the school to charge the students for their honor roll sashes. Why, all of a sudden, is this a payment that the kids have to make? Shouldn't that be donated or something that the school board provides for these kids?

Last year they didn't have to pay. Why this year? I don't understand. These kids should be honored without having to pay for it too."

Dr. Effie Grear, principal at Glades Central Community High School, responds: "The National Honor Society is a service organization composed of many wonderful, talented young ladies and gentlemen. However, someone has misinformed the parent who indicates that the NHS stoles were 'free' last year. In talking with last year's sponsor, verification

was made that those students who desired to wear the honor stoles, paid for them as have all other NHS students in the previous years. Students graduating with honors are able to either purchase the honor cords or use them and return them at the conclusion of graduation festivities. Those who choose only to use them during graduation ceremonies pay a small fee for cleaning. I am sorry the wrong information was given, but both last year's sponsor and this year's sponsor have validated that the stoles have never been 'free.' I apologize for any misinformation which has been given. This is an item which the students have always taken care of. Graduation can become a very expensive process, but we are not financially able to absorb such items as honor stoles. I do, however, appreciate the opportunity to explain the process to any persons who had concerns about the expense involved in obtaining such items."

Say what?

"I just want to say sex, money and power is taking over the world and we are sitting back and not doing anything about it.

I know the president is not Jesus, but he is over the whole world. You see they lied on Jesus and man isn't anything in His sight, but I hope they will let him (the President) have some peace.

My God, to me that is somebody wanting money. They are using sex, to get it. If a man rapes a woman I could see him paying for it. It's just prostituting and getting paid for it that is a disgrace to other women."



Former mayor concerned about lack of space for social functions in Belle Glade

Editor's note: William Grear, former city commissioner and former mayor of Belle Glade, asked that this letter be sent to each current city commissioner be run in the newspaper. Mr. Grear said he sent the letter on December 15, 1997 and has not received a response to his concerns from most of the commission. If other residents share his concern, he urges them to contact their elected officials to see what can be done about this situation.

Commissioners:

Due to the unavailability of a suitable building to provide for a gathering of 300 people in attendance, we, the citizens of Belle Glade have been forced to seek proper accommodations in other cities for such gatherings. This is not the Belle Glade that I once knew.

Since the Armory was returned to the City of Belle Glade we have been denied the use of the building. The reason given to me was that there is some asbestos contained in the building.

Commissioner, if I read the report correctly, which was dated January 29, 1997, the major problem was the Bullet Trap. The dangerous lead-contaminated sand has been removed from the Bullet Trap. Mr. Grimes, who heads the Department of Military Environmental Affairs, has given his approval to the manner of clean up and disposal of the Bullet Trap material. You may obtain copies of this report from Sue Teets.

There is another report entitled "Asbestos Identification Survey" that outlines some floor tile that contains some asbestos. Consultant Joseph E. Gaudet identified some areas of asbestos in the building. Again, if I read his report correctly, his report does not classify the building as dangerous if not used on an every day basis.

Five months have passed since I first inquired about the use of the Armory for large events.

Sororities, fraternities and women's and men's clubs use such events to raise money for scholarships for deserving young people in our community who probably would not have a chance to go to college without some help.

Your initiation of ways to make the Armory available for use on occasion, one day or night basis would remedy the curtailment of many worthwhile projects or social activities.

A city the size of Belle Glade needs a larger place for its citizens to sponsor social functions.

I would like to suggest at this point that you read the following under the City Charter: Section 1-6; Section 2-6; Section 14-6 and Section 15-6.

I pray that you will not be labeled as just a city commissioner in name only as some have been characterized in the past as well as the present.

I remain committed to the advancement and welfare of our city and its citizens, as a retired city commissioner, to work diligently for the betterment of the human race, especially in our immediate surrounding communities.

Sincerely,

William A. Grear
Belle Glade

P.S. I mentioned what most of the proceeds derived from these events are used for. Unfortunately, the increased rental charge for the use of the facilities is grossly out of reach. The number of police required is also absolutely outrageous. I believe a happy medium can be reached, which would allow the city and the users to continue their good work.

I am thanking you in advance for your immediate attention and positive consideration to this matter.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Thank you, Pahokee, for the many smiles you have given to Jesus Bernal and his entire family during their ordeal. The injuries suffered by Jesus at the hands of the criminals who attacked him will require months of healing and therapy. Your kindness and caring, your prayers and concern, and your giving through the benefit barbecue held at and sponsored by Thriftway of Pahokee, have opened the door to a bright future for our entire family.

Thank you so much for your smiles.

The family and friends of Jesus Bernal

Dear Editor:

The executive board of the Festival of Afro Arts thanks the community for their continued support of the Afro Arts Festival. The 19th annual festival held March 21 featured 35 vendors with food, fun and games for all ages. WSWN-Sugar 900, with Harvey Poole Sr. and Harvey J. broadcasted live from the park. Entertainment was provided by Bernard "E-Z" Harper and K-Love. They attracted approximately six thousand Glades residents to sample their wares.

A special thank you goes to the vendors for their patience and understanding as we ventured out with a new booth set-up. A special young lady offered prayer for a good day and the Lord blessed us with a cool and clear day. The festival opened with a proclamation for the City of Belle Glade presented by Vice Mayor Bill Mathis followed by presentation of the local high school queens. Chief Michael Miller, the Belle Glade Police Department and the Parks

and Recreation Department took care of the set up, clean up and security. A special thank you to Shirley Morris for a pre-festival Gospel Explosion held at the Pahokee High School Auditorium.

The executive board is presently looking for members of the community to join the committee. The vision of the first executive board, (1979-80) was to have it represent the diversity of the Glades community. Anyone interested in being on the board can contact me at 924-5126 or Winifred Tolbert at 996-4574. Monthly meetings are held. We look forward to next year's festival being bigger and better.

Robbie Everett
Executive Board member

Dear Editor:

Today, Saturday, March 28, 1998, is "I Love Pahokee Day," a day that is billed as the time when the entire city should come out to pay homage to the people and institutions that make up not only our present, but our past as well. A day to remember the Pahokee we all knew and to dream about the Pahokee that could have been, while we are forced to witness the Pahokee that is.

Pahokee is a wonderful place. It is a quiet place. It is a town sitting on the edge of greatness and prosperity, yet simultaneously a city with no future. Pahokee is a town filled with wonderful people of many nations, colors, and languages. Our town is a "melting pot" of cultures and dreams as well as failures. We all strive to make tomorrow better than today so that

Letters to the Editor continue on Page 5

A glimpse back in time...



This photo was taken in the spring of 1941. It was taken on the stage in Jameson Hall and includes students from Mrs. Jameson's kindergarten class. Shown left to right are: Bobby Van-Landingham, Sonny Imes, Nancy Ball, (the next person is unknown), Joan Rabin, (the next girl is a Moore niece of Mrs. F. Wedgworth, (the next student is also unknown), Davie Weiman, Lois Neller, Curtis A. Thompson Jr. and Jane Morris. (Curtis Thompson and Jane Morris later married.)

THE SUN

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A PLEDGE TO OUR READERS

We pledge...

- ✓ To operate this newspaper as a public trust.
- ✓ To help our community become a better place to live and work, through our dedication to conscientious journalism.
- ✓ To provide the information citizens need to make their own decisions about public issues.
- ✓ To report the news with honesty, accuracy, purposeful neutrality, fairness, objectivity, fearlessness and compassion.
- ✓ To use our opinion pages to facilitate community debate, not to dominate it with our own opinions.
- ✓ To correct our errors, and to give each correction the prominence it deserves.
- ✓ To provide a right to reply to those about whom we write.
- ✓ To treat people with courtesy, respect and compassion.



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We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

ERRORS - The liability of the publisher on account of errors or omissions from any advertisement will in no way exceed the amount of the charge for the space occupied by the item in error, and then only for the first incorrect insertion.

POSTMASTER:
Send Address changes to **THE SUN**
P.O. Box 2226, Belle Glade, FL 33430



GLADES DAY SCHOOL Senior Michael Elliott signs a scholarship agreement to play football at Union College in Barbourville, Ky as a defensive back. Michael's coach, Pete Walker, and his mother, Ruth Elliott are shown standing.

Letters to the editor...continued from Page 4

have spent our time here on Earth being productive while protecting the beauty and abundance that God has entrusted us with.

This small patch of black dirt, sitting directly on the shores of the most widely unused natural resource that we have, (Lake Okeechobee), seems locked in a constant struggle between those who would and can see a prosperous community through diversification of our economy, and those who deter change and growth as if it were their God-given right. We are all equal in God's eyes and should be treated as such. Some of us have more possessions, some more brains, some have talents unused, but we all expect to be treated as if we actually were part of this community.

Pahokee cannot survive to see another pitiful "I Love Pahokee Day" unless the walls of prejudice, hatred, fear, greed, and control, control, control are blasted into dust. None of us have the right to consider our agendas as the best ones. None of us should consider our ideas and actions as the only ones capable of bringing about positive change. It should be remembered

color.

I love Pahokee. You love Pahokee. We all love Pahokee. But I think we all love the Pahokee that we carry with us in our memories...the Pahokee of our youth. The place where we had many friends in life, the prosperous place filled with prosperous people scattered all over town, not just along certain streets. We miss that Pahokee. It has been said that when you return to your hometown you discover that it is not the old hometown we miss, but our youth.

Perhaps we are looking for that Pahokee. Perhaps we have already given up on ever finding it. There is one thing that is sure, the people who truly love Pahokee are those who have faith that it is not dead. Those who try on a daily basis to make a positive small change for this city. Those who work along or together with more concern for the success and prosperity of the entire community than the petty bankrolling of their own agendas.

Sincerely

Larry M. Wright

Dear Editor:

I am responding to a Wednesday, March 25 *Palm Beach Post* interview written by Sally D. Swartz entitled: "Not even the birds are catching."

... It's been a long, lonely 30 years, living on the "Big Lake" with all of its natural and unnatural problems.

Understandably, Lake Okeechobee, due to its enormity, does provide millions of people with fresh potable water. Included in the package comes enormous problems, some created by the very government agencies which were commissioned to protect it.

As the "River of Grass" finds its way down through the Kissimmee River Valley into the lake, it is no longer laden with fresh dairy cattle feces. This industry has been all but regulated out of this region of Florida. Only three out of nearly 20 major dairies continue to operate in Okeechobee County. They have been completely remodeled rather than close their doors. These costly changes were made to accommodate the latest scientific knowledge in sewage treatment within its own property boundaries. E.P.A. inspectors make regular visits to the dairies to monitor the septic systems and improbable runoff.

The "River of Grass" makes its way down from Lake Kissimmee through the Kissimmee River (valley) into Lake Okeechobee and is spread broadly across the greater Everglades, then into Florida Bay at the southern end of peninsula Florida. There are numerous points for pollution to possibly enter into this once pristine, grassy watercourse.

The St. Lucie Canal exits Lake

Okeechobee, its primary water source, towards the St. Lucie River to the east, well above the Everglades Agricultural Area. Farms at the southern shores of the lake, for years now, are no longer allowed to back pump excess water directly into the lake.

As long as I can remember, (48 years old) the fresh water in this tattered old lake has smelled strong of fertilizer and chemicals. Possibly the smell is actually derived from the dreaded Hydrilla and Pepper Grass. Both give off a strong scent.

In the teens of this century, 6,000,000 pounds of catfish were harvested annually from this, the second largest fresh water lake, wholly within the contiguous United States. History reveals that not only have billions of fish died naturally in the lake, but thousands of pounds of fish were dumped overboard. Ice was precious for transport and running aground for example, in route to market up the Kissimmee River in its original winding state was a fairly common event. The only way to get over the shoals created from say, last month's rain storms, was to off

Much of the soil base covering the surface of the "River of Grass," including the bottom of Lake Okeechobee, consists of organic muck. The natural decay of this matter releases horrendous quantities of nitrogen. Unnatural disturbance of these soils compounds an already existing problem. Any addition of the other major nutrients will explode the growth of every photogenic species which come into contact with this nutrient laden water source.

Some of the communities around the interior water supply of south Florida are pumping their effluent deep into the ground supposedly well below the reach of our surface water supply.

Consider the works of government sanctioned projects within this same area over the past 50 years. There are corrections being made, such as the Kissimmee River alteration back to near original state. Consider the \$800,000,000 Everglades Reclamation Project which is now in progress. Consider the unnecessary demolition of a viable industry - milk production. Consider the attempts of certain eco-concerned groups to decimate a perfectly healthy industry - sugar and vegetable production.

The lake is now experiencing an over abundance of water within the confines of the Hoover Dike which surrounds it. Much concern has arisen about the safety of the dike and its ability to protect the human inhabitants in the towns around the lake.

To the residents of the St. Lucie River area who are experiencing some minor flooding in the lowest areas and losing fish which are normally in the river which have fled to saltier ocean waters, they will return and the water level will lower.

I implore you to put on your best thinking cap and join in with your neighbors to the west in solving these atrocious problems surrounding one of the greatest natural resources in America, Lake Okeechobee, its tributaries and its recipients.

Stephen H. Wilkinson
Pahokee

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Belle Glade Police Dept. arrest blotter

The Belle Glade Police Department handled 692 complaints, worked 19 crime scenes and gave 11 traffic citations the week of March 23-29. Those arrested included:

March 23- No arrests made.

March 24- Jose Tervino, 42, burglary of a structure, petty theft and opposing and obstructing by disguise; Juvenile, 16, pickup order.

March 25- Marjorie McCarty, 24, domestic battery; Juvenile, 17, battery; Juvenile, 16, battery; Juvenile, 14, battery; Juvenile, 15, battery.

March 26- Curtis Lee Thornton, 30, two counts of contempt of court; Steven

Frederick, 18, forgery and uttering a forged instrument; Michael Jackson, 31, domestic battery.

March 27- Antonio Smith, 30, loitering and prowling; Gus Butler Jr., 36, aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, retail theft and contempt of court; James Robert Turner, 57, petty theft; Brenda Bill, 37, possession of narcotic paraphernalia; Kenneth McFarland, 39, burglary of a structure and obstruction of an officer without violence; Christine Johnson, 30, aggravated battery with a deadly weapon; Janet Lopez, 46, trespassing after warning; Richard Singleton, 20, battery and aggravated assault with a deadly weapon.

March 28- Willie Bush, 21, failure to appear; Roy Brown, 28, contempt of court; Joanna Davis Perry, 26, aggravated domestic battery with a deadly weapon.

March 29- David Lauricello, 23, possession of marijuana under 20 grams; Felix Mayo, 28, failure to appear and domestic battery.

The police news in this newspaper lists arrests, not convictions, unless otherwise stated. Arrested persons who later are found not guilty or have had the charges against them dropped are welcome to let us know. We will confirm the information and print it.

Pahokee Police Dept. arrest blotter

The Pahokee Police Department made 13 arrests the week of March 23-29. Those arrested included:

March 23- Beatrice Parker, 37, possession of an open alcoholic beverage.

March 24- George Collins, 21, possession of an open alcoholic beverage and resisting arrest without violence; Kelvin Young, 20, possession of an open alcoholic beverage; John E. Knight, 31, aggra-

John E. Knight, 31, aggravated battery; Everett Pittman, 39, failure to appear warrant.

March 25- Lorraine Johnson, 41, trespassing.

March 26- Juvenile, 10, battery and disrupting a school function; Juvenile, 9, disrupting a school function; Juvenile, 12, battery, distributing a school function and resisting arrest with violence; Bernard Jackson, 45, aggravated bat-

Jackson, 45, aggravated battery.

March 27- No arrests made.

March 28- Ricky Fields, 35, possession of an open alcoholic beverage and two counts of possession of drug paraphernalia; Timothy Redmond, 27, possession of an open alcoholic beverage.

March 29- Bobby Littles, 24, domestic battery.

Crimestoppers



Michael L. Knowles

Crimestoppers of Palm Beach County, Inc., is asking

citizens to help locate Michael L. Knowles, who is wanted for failure to appear on charges of carrying a concealed firearm, petty theft, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and possession of cocaine and fleeing or attempting to elude police.

He is also wanted for violation of probation on charges of robbery and several misdemeanor charges.

Knowles is a black male, 5'9", weighing 160 pounds. He has black hair and brown eyes and a tattoo on his right arm.

He also goes by the name of Eric Hunter. His date of birth is August 30, 1978 and his Social Security Number is 589-56-2769. His last known address is known and his occupation is unknown. His warrant was active as of March 24, 1998.

If you know the whereabouts of Knowles, or anyone involved in a serious crime, call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-458-8477. You can remain anonymous and still receive a cash reward if your tip leads to an arrest.

Awards banquet held by sorority honors Lula Mays

Mu Rho Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. held their Sixth Annual Glades Area Citizens Award Banquet in memory of Mary "Lula" McKinney-Mays on Sunday, March 29.

The event was held at the Belle Glade Municipal Civic Center.

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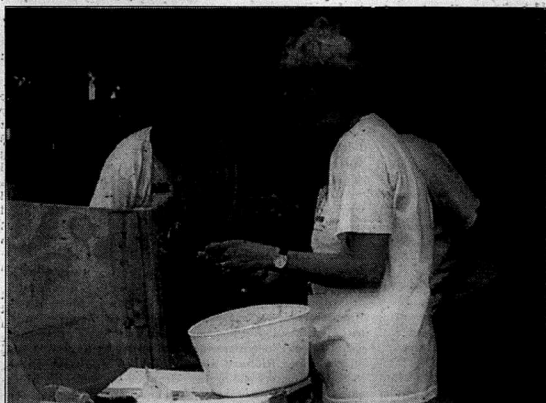
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I Love Pahokee Day

Pictured are JoAnn & Ken Law and friends cooking up a shrimp boil at I Love Pahokee Day. Many people showed up to enjoy the good food and dancing throughout the day. In addition to the shrimp boil was a catfish dinner and drinks.



Life Builders strike again! Last Saturday, Life Builders worked on the home of Karen Hooks. They put a fresh coat of paint on the house and the trim, and made a few repairs. "I am very thankful to them for the help they have given me," says Karen.

Life Builders is an outreach of Good Shepherd Church of God, Pahokee. The ministry is open to all Christian men in the area around Lake Okechobee who wish to participate. Their goal is to meet the needs of people in the community by working hand in hand with all members of the body of Christ.

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The tallest recorded height for a gorilla living in the wild is 6 feet, two inches.

Holy Week services scheduled

The Pahokee-Canal Point Ministerial Association announces the schedule for their annual Holy Week Services. Services will be held each day, Monday through Friday, April 6th to 10th, at 12:10 p.m. in the chapel of the First United Methodist Church, Pahokee. The services will last 20 minutes and will be followed by a light lunch in the church fellowship hall.

The speakers will be: Monday - Rev. James H. Brewer, pastor, Good Shepherd Church of God, Pahokee; Tuesday - Rev. Delbert King, pastor, First United Methodist Church, Pahokee; Wednesday - Rev. Greg Sampson, pastor, Canal Point United Methodist Church, Canal Point; Thursday - Rev. Bill Dever, pastor, Church of the Nazarene, Pahokee; Friday - Rev. James A. Bennett, pastor, Canal Point Baptist Church, Canal Point.

On Thursday evening, April 9th, the Good Shepherd Church of God will host their annual Messianic Seder. The Seder is the Passover Meal. Reservations are required and information can be obtained by calling the church office at 924-7284.

On Friday evening, April 10th, the annual Good Friday service will be held at 7 p.m. in the First United Methodist Church, Pahokee. Rev. James H. Brewer will be the speaker.

On Sunday morning, April 12th, the annual Easter Sunrise Service will be at 7 a.m. in the courtyard of the First United Methodist Church, Pahokee. Rev. Greg Sampson will be the speaker.

On Friday evening and Sunday morning an offering will be received for the work of the Pahokee-Canal Point Ministerial Association in providing food and other assistance to those in need.

The community is invited to be a part of these exciting services. Anyone desiring further information may contact one of the pastor's listed above.

Military News



Air Force Airman Nadia D. Thorpe has graduated from basic military training at Lackland

Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization, and customs and received special training in human relations.

In addition, airman who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Thorpe is the daughter of Sonia A. and stepdaughter of Clinton E. Heath of Belle Glade.

Sorority News

Xi Beta Tau held their monthly meeting on Thursday, March 5 at the home of Kay Korbly, who also supplied refreshments.

Plans were discussed for a fall rush and a vote was taken for 1998 Girl of the Year. Members present were: Frances Adams, Anita Brunson, Migtha Graydon, Kay Korbly, JoAnn Law, Omsida Milliron, Maria Mills, Tina Provenzale, Amy Schenck, Sandy Simonson and Carlene Walker.

The March social was held in the form of a luncheon at the Broadway Cafe in Wellington on Saturday, March 21st. Enjoying the afternoon out (complete with calories) were: Martha Graydon, JoAnn Law, Amy Schenck and Carlene Walker.

The next scheduled meeting will take place on Thursday, April 2nd, 7:30 p.m. at the home of Frances Adams.

EurAupair Program seeks qualified host families

Each year thousands of American families in search of child care assistance open their homes and hearts to an air exchange visitor from around the world. This age old European tradition continues to grow in popularity in the United States. You may even know families in your own neighborhood who are already hosting an air pair. Local families with children ages 3 months to 12 years interested in hosting an air exchange participant from Europe, Japan, South Africa or french-speaking Canada are being sought by the non-profit EurAupair (pronounced your o' pair) Intercultural Child Care Program.

By welcoming a young person from another country into your family as an au pair, you are not only choosing to enrich your family by expanding your knowledge of another country and its culture, but because your au pair will be considered part of your

family, you will be gaining a trusted older brother or sister to take care of your children.

EurAupair au pairs are young adults between the ages of 18 and 26, who have chosen to take a year off between school terms to live with an American family, and help care for the family's children in exchange for the opportunity to learn more about our culture and language in a way that can only happen through a homestay experience. Au pairs offer families flexible hours of child care assistance while the children benefit from the individualized attention of their new "big sister" in the secure, familiar surrounding of their own home.

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Obituaries

Week of April 2, 1998

Angela Marie Hankerson, died March 12, 1998 at Everglades Regional Hospital in Pahokee. She was born April 3, 1967 to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas S. Hankerson.

Angela joined the South Bay Church of God at an early age. She graduated from Glades Central Community High School in 1985. After graduation she attended New England Tech of West Palm Beach and received an AA Degree in Computer Programming.

She is survived by five children - Stephanie, Latangela, LeQuita, Jon Kerin and Thomas Hankerson; parents - Thomas and Ella Mae Hankerson of Belle Glade; sisters - Cynthia (Edson) Fagan of Lake Worth and Pamela Hankerson of Belle Glade; brother - Jonathan A. Hankerson of Belle Glade; grandparents - Georgia and J.C. Hill of Oglethorpe, Leo Leary of Americus, Georgia and several nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts, uncles and friends.

Mary Hamilton Roker, died March 17, 1998. She was born May 27, 1926 to the late Amos Hamilton and Liza Racker. Mary grew up in Savannah, Georgia, where she received her early education. In 1949, she moved to Belle Glade and joined

the St. John First Baptist Church. While at St. John, she served on the Usher Board #2, Willing Worker, Missionary Society, and Pastor's Aid Club and was a member of the adult Sunday school class. Mary also served as a member and past-daughter leader of Emma V. Kelly Temple #4955.

Mary attended Indian River Community College and received certification in Early Childhood Education and worked with preschool children for a number of years at the Wee Care Center, Inc. in Belle Glade.

She is preceded in death by her sons: Jessie, Curtis, Calvin and Troy. She is survived by husband - William Roker; daughters - Mildred-Ross (George) of South Bay, Gwendolyn Johnson of West Palm, Deborah Johnson of West Palm, Sheila Henry (Flevo) of Royal Palm, Delores Mayes (James) of Lakeland and Irma Woods of Lantana; father and stepmother of her children - Calvin C. Johnson (Quincy) of Riviera Beach; 18 grandchildren; sisters - Mary Mercado and Lula Nails of New York; sisters-in-law - Bertha Hamilton of Miami and Lula Mae Hamilton of South Bay and many nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives and friends.



Cat Talk from

Fifth and sixth grade students from Mrs. Zavalta's and Mrs. Maskie's class were recently treated to a tour of the Wellington Equestrian Country Club. The trip included a horse jumping show, a tour of the stables, blacksmith and veterinarian center and a generous lunch. The students had the opportunity to talk to some of the riders and other equestrian personnel. Everyone at the country club was extremely friendly and eager to answer questions from

the students. The trip was made possible by Ms. Dale Lawler and other members of the equestrian organization. The organization is hoping to sponsor more trips in the near future for our students. Both teachers and their students are most appreciative to have been given this opportunity and hope to continue this partnership.

Stadium Jumping, along with Ms. Sherry Robertson, also donated \$3,200.00 to purchase 40 sets of uniforms for



self-contained E.S.E. students. We are most grateful for their generous contribution.

SPRING BREAK - April 6-13, 1998. On behalf of our staff, we want to wish everyone a SAFE AND HAPPY spring break. School resumes on Tuesday, April 14.



Students attend Spring Area 10 Special Olympic Games

Students from Gove Elementary School, Pioneer Elementary School attended the Spring Track and Field events, Saturday, March 21, in Sunrise, FL. The students participated in throwing the softball and running the meter dash. Students attending were: Jamera Lane, Timothy Burton, Shanekia Thompson, Shametra Inman, Marie Manuel, Howard Graham, Jr. Lenora Harris, Donna Ott, Mary Davis, Anthony Frost, Sherneka Harris, Abel Flores, Debra Jones, Aretha Wright and Gail Davis Perry.

Savage attends DC Government Conference

Jacob Savage, a student at Pahokee Middle/Senior High School in Pahokee, recently took part in the Presidential Classroom Scholars Program in Washington, D.C. Jacob joined 372 high school juniors and seniors from 45 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Canada, Korea and Taiwan. The students spent a week meeting the government leaders and learning about the democratic process firsthand.

Highlights for the week

Project Graduation

In June of 1998, Glades Central Graduating Class will be celebrating an all-night Alcohol-Drug Free party. The parents of Project Graduation will be chairpersons and host/hostesses for the occasion.

We are proud parents of our children and we are asking your company to underwrite expense by donating souvenirs, door prizes, food, money, etc. We would appreciate the privilege of advertising your business in the Glades Area. We will do so with novelties such as: tee-shirts, caps, pens, pencils, sample products, calendars, door prizes, gifts, food or money.

Continued on page 8

Glades Day Gator Tales

Spring has sprung!

Along with the warmer temperatures and the blustery winds, Glades Day students and faculty will be taking advantage of the season with the traditional week-long Spring Break holiday April 6-10. Many will scatter, with some heading to the mountains on ski trips and others heading to the beaches for sun 'n fun in the surf. Whatever your plans, have fun, be careful and arrive safely - we'd like to see everyone back in school on April 13!

The campus was hopping with Latin music and foods last Monday as Mr. Victor Slesinger's Spanish I, II and III classes presented Spanish Day for the entire school to enjoy. The students divided into groups and prepared projects on Latin American countries, along with sample displays of their cultures and foods. Everyone from Pre-K3 through 12th grades enjoyed walking around and tasting

the many different dishes that ranged from black beans and rice to meat stews to baked plantains. The elementary students also had a special treat when they were allowed to swing and break the



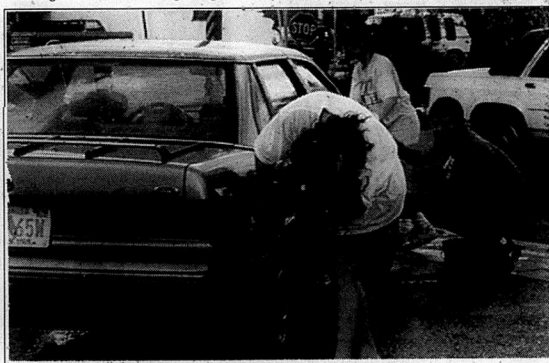
piñatas made by Mr. Eric Muniz's eighth grade Conversational Spanish classes. Ole!

Ask any sophomore to lend you a hand-and he or she is liable to hold out the one sporting the Class of 2000. Herff Jones delivered the class rings last Friday and there was a lot of cooing and ahing as students admired everyone's rings.

The countdown for graduation is on for members of the Class of 1998 and the delivery of the announcements last Friday is making the seniors even more aware that their big date is arriving. They still have a host of activities awaiting them, beginning with Field Day this Friday, April 3, and continuing with Grad Nite, Prom, Senior Skip Day, etc., before commencement exercises on May 29. Enjoy them while you can, seniors!

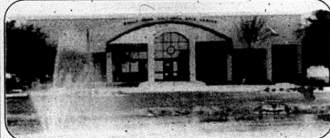
Fourteen juniors visited West Tech's Health Career Day last Friday, March 27, to learn about different aspects of the medical field and what options are available in health careers. They spoke with nurses, dietitians, phlebotomists, and paramedics, and were also treated to a first-hand look at the Trauma Hawk helicopter that is used for medical emergencies.

That's it for this week. Gator Tales will return in two weeks. Have a nice Spring Break!



Students from Pahokee High School held a car wash on Saturday to raise money for a Multi-cultural dance. Pictured are students from grades 7th - 12th.

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Students at Glades Day School celebrated the 5th Annual Spanish Day on Monday, March 30. They enjoyed Latin cuisine and learned about the many Spanish speaking countries.

Project Graduation Continued from p. 7...

Parents are expecting to see 280 students graduate this year at Glades Central. They would like to show their pride for your business with souvenir packages. Anything that the businesses can do to make the night a memorable one will be appreciated.

Let's give these young

people a pat on the back for a job well done! Please help our teenagers party safely by supporting this effort.

If you receive any donations and gifts, please contact Marjorie Dowdell at 996-9617, Mr. and Mrs. Bythwood at 996-5785 or Angela Culler at 993-4400.



Tears, idle tears? Not quite. In addition to clearing your eyes of dust, hairs and such stuff, your tears contain substances that fight bacteria and proteins that combat eye infection.

The Glades Track Club

By Jennie M. Sears
Staff Reporter

Every week The Glades Track Club competes and every week they get better.

The Track Club is under the direction of Mike White and he's doing a great job of coaching the girls on the team.

On March 28 the team competed at the North

Miami Stadium in Miami. Geneva Morris, age 11, entered the Midget Age Group competitions and received 1st place in the following categories: high jump - 4'0", shot-put - 24', and 1500 meter run - 6:01.89. She placed 3rd in the 80 meter hurdle with 16.46.

Anita Perkins, age 12,

entered the Youth Age Group and placed 1st in all of the events. Those included: high jump - 4'8", shot-put - 31'4", 100 meter hurdle - 16.64, and 1500 meter run 5:09.72.

"The girls are doing very well. They continue to improve their own records," says Coach White.

Wildlife Alert program a powerful enforcement tool for Game Commission

In November 1979, the Wildlife Alert Reward Program was kicked off in Florida as a way of encouraging the public's help in apprehending those who violate wildlife and freshwater fish laws. The program resulted in more than \$17,000 arrests and \$241,775 in rewards.

The Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission (GFC) developed the concept of Wildlife Alert and at the onset helped set up the 13-member citizen committee to oversee its work. The Commission works hand-in-hand with the committee in a joint effort to toward wildlife crime.

"Almost every year between 70-80 percent of the people who contact Wildlife Alert say they don't want a reward, just stop the violations," said GFC Major Jim Rice.

The Commission urges you to do something positive about wildlife crimes. Report violations to Wildlife Alert. The tollfree number in south Florida is 1-800-432-2046.

Callers who wish to remain anonymous are given a confidential code color and number and can later claim their reward if a conviction results.

Game & Fish Commission restructures fisheries rules

The Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, today approved a thorough restructuring of fisheries rules, proposed by the agency's staff in an effort to harness the latest technology in fisheries management.

Commissioners voted to establish a daily bag limit of 25 black crappie (speckled perch) statewide. Previously, black crappie counted in the daily bag limit of 50 panfish, but under the new rule, anglers will be able to catch the daily limit of 25 crappie in addition to the daily limit of 50 panfish (breem).

Also, the Commission adopted a staff proposal to eliminate the daily bag limits for chain and redbfin pickers.

Bag limits, size limits, slot limits and other regulations on fish management areas, however, would differ considerably from these statewide rules. Anglers still would need to check rules for individual fish management areas before taking to the water.

against use of gigs to take catfish and would authorize giggering at night for all nongame fish.

Commissioners also adopted an assortment of rule changes to set hunting dates, bag limits and other regulations on Type I and Type II wildlife management areas and on wildlife and environmental areas.

Other rule changes establish new procedures to make it easier for alligator trappers and alligator egg-and hatchling collectors to comply with regulations and reduce the cost of hide validation fees for nuisance-alligator trappers.

In addition, Commissioners recognized retired education specialist Rudy Howell for his 34 years of service and retired Wildlife Officer Tom Largent for his 31 years of service.

The next Commission meeting will take place May 21-22 at Cocoa Beach. All GFC meetings are open to the public.

Another new rule repeals the prohibition



Parent should begin brushing children's teeth with a soft bristle brush as soon as the first tooth comes in.



The first American magazine for women was Godey's Lady's Book, founded in 1830.

University of Miami Baseball

U Hurricanes

MARCH SCHEDULE

April 10	UM vs Bethune Cookman	7:00 p.m.
April 11	UM vs Bethune Cookman	7:00 p.m.
April 12	UM vs Bethune Cookman	1:00 p.m.
April 15	UM vs Florida Atlantic	7:00 p.m.
April 17	UM vs St. Thomas	7:00 p.m.
April 18	UM vs St. Thomas	7:00 p.m.
April 22	UM vs Florida Atlantic	7:00 p.m.

1982 COLLEGE WORLD SERIES CHAMPIONS 1985

All games are played at Mark Light Stadium, corner of San Amaro & Ponce on the University of Miami campus. Ticket prices are \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children 16 & under.

1998 Winston Cup Schedule

Date	Race/Location	Television	Starting time
March 22	Transouth Financial 400, Darlington, SC	ESPN	1 p.m.
March 29	Food City 500, Bristol, TN	ESPN	1:10 p.m.
April 5	Texas 500, Fort Worth, TX	CBS	1 p.m.
April 19	Goody's Headache Powder 500, Martinsville, VA	ESPN	1 p.m.
April 26	Diehard 500, Talladega, Ala.	ABC	Noon
May 3	California 500, Fontana, CA	ESPN	11 a.m.
May 24	Coca-Cola 600, Concord, NC	TNN	6:15 p.m.
May 31	MBNA Platinum 400, Dover, Del.	ESPN	12:10 p.m.
June 6	Pontiac Excitement 400, Richmond, VA	ESPN	7:40 p.m.
June 14	Miller Lite 400, Brooklyn, Mich.	CBS	1 p.m.
June 21	Pocono 500, Long Pond, PA	TNN	1 p.m.
June 28	Save Mart/Kragen 350, Sonoma, CA	ESPN	1:10 p.m.
July 4	PEPSI 400, Daytona Beach, FL	CBS	8 p.m.
July 12	Jiffy Lube 300, Loudon, NH	TNN	1 p.m.
July 26	Pennsylvania 500, Long Pond, PA	TBS	1 p.m.

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April 8, 1998

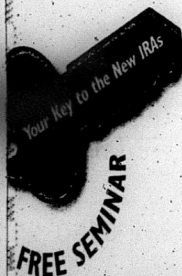
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Mother Nature may be punishing us



It is called a fingerprint study. It is an effort by scientists to research a small part of a big issue. Sometimes when several fingerprint studies are complete, there is often enough evidence from the little issues to make a conclusion on the larger one.

Such is the case on the issue of global warming. Recent fingerprint studies suggest that our planet is getting warmer.

There has been, for example, a disproportionate rise in nighttime and winter temperatures, a dramatic increase in extreme

Charlie Daniels Band headlines 12th Annual Sugar Festival

America's sweetest town, Clewiston, FL, will host the 1998 Sugar Festival on Saturday, April 18, from 7:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. at Clewiston City Park. The annual spring Festival marks the end of the sugar cane harvest season and features a full day of live entertainment, food, arts and crafts, and fun for the entire family.

Grammy and Country Music Association Award winner, Charlie Daniels, best known as the "Big Daddy of Southern Country Rock," will headline this year's entertainment with a free performance at 4 p.m. Other featured performers include Shane Martin from Nashville, and nationally recognized comedian T. Bubba Bechtel of Bubbas of America, who will serve as host, master of ceremonies and, along with the Festival honoree, as parade marshal.

This year's Festival honoree will be Joe A. Hilliard, whose name has become synonymous with Florida farming over the last 60 years. Mr. Hilliard's pioneering determination and numerous accomplishments in sugar, cattle, and citrus farming made him the perfect candidate for this annual recognition, which seeks to acknowledge and thank those individuals who have sacrificed and labored so that rural south Florida can sustain agriculture and feed millions of Americans.

Thousands of residents and visitors from around the state are expected to attend the Festival, which promises to be bigger and better than ever. The Festival kicks-off at 7:30 a.m. with the Running Tigers 5K run/walk and will be followed by the traditional street parade at 10 a.m. A ranch rodeo at the arena fairgrounds set for 7:00 p.m. will close the event. Food booths, old fashioned cane grinding, and special activities for children, are all part of the celebration.

T.V. host, Brian Reskow, better known as "Mr. Brian," will lead the children's entertainment with presentations at 1:15 and 2:15 p.m. Other attractions will include the Business and Professional Women's Club Arts and Crafts Show, exhibits of antique cars and farming equipment, and the Sweet Taste of Sugar Country Desert Contest. Admission to the Sugar Festival is free, and plenty of free convenient parking is available. As you approach Clewiston, look for signs directing to the free parking. Shuttle buses will take visitors to the Festival grounds and back to their vehicles all day long. Security will be provided at the parking lots.

Clewiston City Park is located between the Clewiston Inn and U.S. Sugar Corporation's headquarters on U.S. 27.

For more information call the Sugar Festival Committee at 941-983-7979.

weather around the world, and an unexpected increase in the temperature of the midtroposphere in the Southern Hemisphere.

Individually, none of these studies are the "smoking gun" that would confirm climate change. But, when combined with other fingerprint studies, the research suggests that the Earth's temperature is going up.

The studies prompted the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to conclude that there is "discernible evidence" that humans have begun to alter the Earth's climate regime.

Some researchers suggest that

this year's powerful El Niño weather pattern is a direct result of global warming. They predict that another, perhaps even more powerful El Niño is just around the corner, if the global warming trend continues.

Another strong El Niño would be just the first of many changes in the weather. If our world is getting warmer, scientists predict more weather extremes—violent storms, stronger-than-normal tornadoes and prolonged periods of rain.

And, some researchers believe global warming may lead to an explosion of old and new diseases.

The World Health Organization reports more than 30 new diseases have emerged in the past 20 years. In addition, there has been a resurgence of old diseases on a global scale. Malaria and dengue fever are popping up around the world in some very unlikely places. And the reason may be because the Earth's temperature is going up.

Many of these old and new diseases are being carried by mosquitoes, which are extremely sensitive to climate. A growing number of scientists believe that mosquitoes could shift their range in response to climate change. In addition, the mosquito

to season could be extended.

In the United States, for example, recent studies indicate the potential for the expansion of mosquito-borne encephalomyelitis in other parts of the world, malaria is becoming more common, a pattern that is strikingly similar to those found in computer simulations run a decade ago.

Mosquito-borne diseases are now being reported at high elevations in the highlands of Asia, Central Africa and Latin America. Many agricultural pests like locusts are also shifting regions, in effect following the warmer weather patterns

around the world. Warmer weather patterns produce more weather extremes, which produce more diseases. Floods foster fungal growth and provide new breeding grounds for mosquitoes, while droughts concentrate microorganisms and encourage aphids, locusts and whiteflies.

If human activities are altering atmospheric chemistry and changing the Earth's heat budget, it seems that stronger storms may be the least of our problems. We may be learning the hard way that it's not nice to fool with Mother Nature.

(Mike Lyons is the chief weather forecaster for WFTS-TV)

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<p>General Electric</p> <p>4-Light System</p> <p>4.99 #H4651, #H4656, #H5001, #H5002</p>	<p>prolong</p> <p>Prolong Car Care Kit</p> <p>39.99 #22030</p>	<p>Factory Air Conditioning Compressors</p> <p>12oz. Refrigerant R134a approx 3 for 10.99</p>	<p>Lawn & Garden Batteries</p> <p>19.99 #FULMA</p>	<p>Discount Auto Parts</p> <p>60 Month</p> <p>34.99 #72 Month 39.99</p>	<p>Drums & Rotors</p> <p>12.99 Each</p>

<p>Remanufactured Engines</p> <p>Chery 306, 350 or Ford 302</p> <p>\$699 With Exchange</p>	<p>Starters & Alternators</p> <p>29.99 Each</p> <p>ONE YEAR GUARANTEE</p> <p>26.99 Each</p>	<p>Sure Brake</p> <p>Allied Signal Makers of Bendix</p> <p>21.99 Each</p>	<p>SHOCK ABSORBERS</p> <p>Gabriel</p> <p>Heavy Duty Gas Shock 8.99 Each</p>
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Discount Auto Parts

Sale Good Thru April 7, 1998

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THE GIRL OF THE YEAR AWARD went to Xi Zeta Mu member Laverne Motes (right) at the recent sorority banquet. Presenting the award is chapter sponsor Jane Evans.

Motes named "Girl of the Year"

Laverne Motes was honored as "Girl of the Year" by her sisters of Xi Zeta Mu and their husbands on Saturday, March 21 at BeeEaters in West Palm Beach. She was presented a beautiful crystal bowl, pin and bracelet by chapter sponsor Jane Evans. She also received the "Girl of the Year" scrapbook, created by Karen Corbin and a hand-held fan from Mrs. Evans to help her "keep her cool."

Laverne is married to Jesse Motes, who is retired, and was the owner of Motes Painting for many years. The Motes have three children, Dink (Ray) Alston, who is the welding/pump superintendent for A. Duda & Sons, Dale Alston,

who is general manager for Doc Hill Enterprises and president of Alston Management and Lisa Mills, who is office manager for Knight Management, Inc. The Motes have six grandchildren. Laverne retired from the Quaker Oats Company in 1990 and is active in the First Baptist Church.

Jane Evans was also honored during the banquet. She was presented the "Best Sponsor Award" by Mrs. Motes, a chapter scrapbook by Karen Corbin, and a tiara and original poem by Greadle York. Members said they wanted to show their love and appreciation to Mrs. Evans.

Also during the banquet, Mrs. Evans presented Chapter

President Janise Goforth with a "plastic" set of golf clubs and her husband, George, with a "caddy" camp, to help Janise with her golf game.

Those in attendance at the banquet included: Florence Acree, Sandra and James Chamblee, Merelyne Cochran, Karen and Gordon Corbin, Laura Mae and Gene Enfinger, Jane Evans, Janise and George Goforth, Judy McMillan, Linda and Wilson McMillan, Pat and Jerry McKee, Laverne and Jesse Motes, Sara Nell Phillips, Gloria and Tom Swager, Laurel Tarr and Greadle York.

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Run your ad four consecutive weeks, and
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CARS FOR \$100 or best offer. Auctioned locally by IRS, DEA, FBI, 4x4s, RVs, boats, computers & more. Call toll free, 24 hours, 7 days...800-972-5213, ext. 470. FCAN. 4/2

USED CAR DEALERS: Place your ad here for half price. Dealers only! Call Yvonne at 561-998-4404 for details. tfn

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LOSE UP TO 30 POUNDS in 30 days! Brand new herbal energy product will make you lose 5 to 30 pounds in 30 days...guaranteed! Call now for free information. 800-696-1259. FCAN. 4/2

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M/F/H/V. 4/9

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BURGER KING ASSISTANT RESTAURANT MANAGER
Immediate opening for highly motivated, responsible individual at Burger King's lake area. If you are friendly, hardworking, neat and ambitious, and committed to providing excellent customer service, you are wanted. We will train. Fast food experience helpful. Salary starting at \$15,000 yearly. Send resume to: Southern Management Corp., 324 S.W. 16th St., Belle Glade, FL 33440. Ann. Rod Ehlinger.

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POSTAL JOBS. Starting \$14.68+/hr. plus benefits. Clerks, Carriers, Sorters, Computer Operators. For exam and application info, Call 800-955-9195 ext. 413 8AM-9PM, 7days. FCAN. 4/2

REGISTERED NURSE WANTED to work part time at a small crisis unit. Send resume to: M. Ward, West County Mental Health Clinic, Inc., 1024 NW Avenue D, Belle Glade, FL 33430 or fax 561-992-1335. 4/2

HENDRY REGIONAL MEDICAL Center job line. For employment inquiries, call 941-902-3085. EOE. tfn

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ALS... part time and full time for small rural mental health clinic providing therapeutic services. Send resume to: M. Ward, West County Mental Health Clinic, Inc., 1024 NW Ave. D, Belle Glade, FL 33430 or fax 561-992-1335. 4/2

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CLEWISTON HEALTH CARE CENTER is seeking CNAs for all shifts for full time and part time positions. We offer free

uniforms, tuition reimbursement, new wages, growth opportunities and a family atmosphere. New graduates are encouraged to apply. Contact Alina Miracle at 941-983-5123. tfn

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Classifieds

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HONEST INCOME, \$300 TO \$1000 WEEKLY potential! Process FHA mortgage refunds. No experience. Own hours. PT/FT. Start now! 305-460-3259 OR 800-645-7802, Dept. 92. FCAN. 4/2

HEAD START CENTER MGR. (Belle Glade), \$25,862/yr. BS/BA Early Childhood Ed., Dev. Psych., Soc. Work, Sociology, Pub./Bus. Adm., Elem. Ed./related; 2 yrs. exp. in supv. of Head Start, child care or related social service programs for children OR unrelated BS/BA & 3 yrs. related exp. PREFER related exp. w/Head Start. Nat. CDA; FL Dept. Children & Families (HRS) 30 hrs trng.; bilingual (Eng./Sp./Creole/Fr.). Appl./resumes must incl. SS#, position title, any Vet. Prof. doc. & be rec'd. by 5pm, 4/10/98. Palm Beach Co. Personnel, 50 S. Military Tr. #210, W. Palm Beach, FL 33415 (fax 253-4604). BO/AA MPDV (DFWP). 4/2

Misc. for Sale

DRESSES...Sizes 9/10 & 11/12, \$10 each. Baby clothes for boy...3 mos., 2-4 mos., 83 - 97 per set. Call Anita at 992-0080. 4/2

FREE CLASSIFIEDS: Run a classified ad for FREE! Any item for sale, priced under \$2000 is FREE...for up to two weeks. One item per ad, price must be included, two ads per customer. Ads will run under our Miscellaneous items for Sale heading. Come by or call The Sun at 417 NW 16th Street, Suite 6, Belle Glade, 561-996-4404. tfn

ALTO SAX W/CASE. \$250. Good cond. 992-9015. 4/2

FACTORY DIRECT POOL HEATERS...Heat pump, solar or gas. Major brands. New/used. Don't phone or installed. Free quotes... 800-333-VARM (9276). www.solaridirect.com. Members BBB. Lic #CW029795. FCAN. 4/2

NEW COLEMAN PORTABLE GENERATOR 4000K. 2-110 Volt outlets, 3-220 Volt outlets, \$890.00. Call 966-6236. 4/2

ALL ALUMINUM TOOL BOX fits a small pick-up. \$165.00. 966-6239. 4/2

MEDICAL SUPPLIES... Medicare recipients are you using a Nebulizer machine? Stop paying full price for Albuterol, Atrovent, etc. Solutions. Medicare will pay for them. We bill Medicare for you and ship directly to your door. MED-A-SAVE 800-638-9849. FCAN. 4/2

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HOME? Signs on telephone poles not getting results? Call Yvonne at 561-996-4404 to place an ad in The Sun Classifieds and watch it go tfn

Music & Instruments

HAS YOUR KID OUTGROWN that drumset, trumpet or guitar? Make another child happy and save another parent some money by unloading it through The Sun Classifieds. Call Yvonne at 561-996-4404 to place an ad. tfn

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF LANDOWNERS OF PALM BEACH WATER CONTROL DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to call of the Board of Supervisors of Palm Beach Water Control District, the annual meeting of the landowners of Palm Beach Water Control District for the year 1998 will be held at the office of said District in the Belle Glade office at Belle Glade, Palm Beach County, Florida, on Tuesday, April 14th, 1998, at 10:00 A.M. in the presence for the purpose of:

1. Electing one (1) Supervisor for a term of three (3) years.
2. Receiving annual reports and taking such action with respect thereto as the landowners may determine.
3. Transacting such other business as may come before the meeting.

If a person desires to appeal the decision of the Board of Supervisors with respect to any matter considered at the meeting herein referred to, he or she may need to make a written request of the Board of Supervisors in the presence of the Board of Supervisors, which request includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is made.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF PALM BEACH WATER CONTROL DISTRICT
BY: W. Walter C. Parker, Jr., President
Published: The Sun, March 26 & April 2, 1998
Legal No. 96-34

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF LANDOWNERS OF BELL COUNTY WATER CONTROL DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to call of the Board of Supervisors of Bell County Water Control District, the annual meeting of the landowners of Bell County Water Control District for the year 1998 will be held at the office of said District in the Belle Glade office at Belle Glade, Palm Beach County, Florida, on Tuesday, April 14th, 1998, at 9:30 A.M. in the presence for the purpose of:

1. Electing one (1) Supervisor for a term of three (3) years.
2. Receiving annual reports and taking such action with respect thereto as the landowners may determine.
3. Transacting such other business as may come before the meeting.

If a person desires to appeal the decision of the Board of Supervisors with respect to any matter considered at the meeting herein referred to, he or she may need to make a written request of the Board of Supervisors in the presence of the Board of Supervisors, which request includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is made.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF BELL COUNTY WATER CONTROL DISTRICT
BY: W. Walter C. Parker, Jr., President
Published: The Sun, March 26 & April 2, 1998
Legal No. 96-35

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF LANDOWNERS OF BELLA GRANDE DRAINAGE DISTRICT

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to call of the Board of Supervisors of the Bella Grande Drainage District, the annual meeting of the landowners of the Bella Grande Drainage District for the year 1998 will be held at the office of said District in the Bella Grande office at Bella Grande, Volusia County, Florida, on Wednesday, April 15, 1998, at 11:30 a.m. for the purpose of:

1. Electing one (1) Supervisor for a term of three (3) years.
2. Receiving annual reports and taking such action with respect thereto as the landowners may determine.
3. Transacting such other business as may be properly brought before the meeting.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF BELLA GRANDE DRAINAGE DISTRICT
BY: Lawrence D. Worth, President
Published: The Sun, April 2 & 9, 1998
Legal No. 96-41

NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION

The City of Pahokee, Florida will hold a general election on Tuesday, May 5, 1998, for the purpose of electing one (1) commissioner for a term of two (2) years, and a commissioner for a term of one (1) year and a mayor for a term of one (1) year.

The first qualifying date as a candidate will be March 27, 1998 and the final day will be April 3, 1998 at 5:00 p.m. Any qualified person may file with the city clerk at 171 N. Lake Avenue, Pahokee, Florida.

All electors of Pahokee and 64 shall vote at the Pahokee for election, May 5, 1998, for the purpose of electing one (1) commissioner for a term of two (2) years, and a commissioner for a term of one (1) year, and a mayor for a term of one (1) year.

Vote registration books will be closed at 5:00 p.m., April 3, 1998, and will remain closed until the first regular business day after the election.

In the event of a run-off election, it will be held on Tuesday, May 12, 1998.

Published: The Sun, April 2, 1998
Legal No. 96-42

PUBLIC NOTICE
The following notice will be sold at public auction on April 14, 1998 at 10:00 a.m. at 2100 NW 15th Street, Belle Glade.

1992 Ford Van 1FDE24G08B08479
Published: The Sun, April 2, 1998
Legal No. 96-43

Notices

TOURS- Ecology, Farms, History, Everglades reclamation. Barley Barber Swamp, Owen's Groves, All interior Florida. 561/924-2003. 5/1

NEED TO GET A MESSAGE OUT TO THE COMMUNITY? Put it in The Sun Classifieds! Call Yvonne at 561-996-4404 for information. tfn

FREE GUIDE to 38 approved fun-packed ranch vacations. Riding, fishing, rafting, and more. Colorado Dude & Guest Ranch Assn. Box 3005, Tabernash, CO. 80478. 970/887-9248 ext. 12. www.coloradoranch.com/s/ FCAN. 4/2

JACKSONVILLE. INTERNATIONAL BOAT SHOW. North Florida's largest in water boat show. April 2-5, Metro Park Marina-across from Alltel Stadium, admission \$6, Thursday, 11 to 7, Sat. Sun, 9 to 7. For exhibitor info 800-742-7219. FCAN. 4/2

SCOTT ANTIQUE MARKET. Two Mammoth Facilities. 2400 booths-April 10-12. 2nd weekend of every month. Atlanta Expo Centers, Atlanta, Georgia. 1-285 at Jonesboro road 614/569-4112. FCAN. 4/2

CARS FOR KIDS. Donate your Car, Boat, Truck, R.V. and receive maximum tax deduction. Need not be running, registered, smogged. For immediate pickup call 800-910-3663. FCAN. 4/2

Personals

LOOKING TO MEET that special someone? Want to give the person in your life a special message. Put it in the paper! Call Yvonne at 561-996-4404 to place a personal ad in The Sun Classifieds. 1/22

Pets & Supplies

LOSING A PET CAN BE PAINFUL...Let The Sun Classifieds try to help you lose your special friend. To place an ad, call Yvonne at 561-996-4404. tfn

Apartments

PAHOKEE NOW RENTING 1BR., 8238, 2BR., starting at \$295, 3BR., \$400 per month. Nice & clean apt. building at 314 Rardin Ave. Now accepting Section 8 rent subsidy. Call Parker Apartments at 924-5493 or 924-1959. tfr

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

South Bay 1 & 2 Br. 1 Bath, 2000 sq. ft. Daytime 996-4479

APARTMENT AVAILABLE? Get a renter in there! Call Yvonne at 561-996-4404 to place an ad in The Sun Classifieds. tfn

Homes for Rent

3BR, 1BA HOME. Large living room, kitchen, dining area and den. Conveniently located near stores and hospital in Belle Glade. For an appointment, please call 996-8068. Serious inquiries only. 4/2

GOT A HOUSE FOR RENT? Put an ad in The Sun Classifieds and get that lease signed! Call Yvonne at 561-996-4404 to place an ad. tfn

Rooms for Rent

NEED EXTRA INCOME? GOT A SPARE ROOM? Turn it into a money maker! Call Yvonne at The Sun to place a classified ad. tfn

Yard Sales

YARD SALE, CAR WASH & snow cones! Saturday, Apostolic Church, 1316 West Canal St. South; 8am - noon. Hammond organ w/speaker, clothes & misc. items. 4/2

HAVING A YARD/GARAGE SALE? Hard core yard sale fans always check The Sun Classifieds first! Call Yvonne at 561-996-4404 to place an ad. tfn

YARD SALE...SATURDAY. April 4, 8am. First Union parking lot, Belle Glade. 4/2

Real Estate

WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA MOUNTAINS...Cool mountain air, views & streams! FREE brochure of mountain properties/vacation rentals...800-642-5333...Realty of Murphy, 517 Peachtree St., Murphy, NC 28906. FCAN. 4/2

LOT FOR SALE? Call Yvonne at The Sun, 561-996-4404, to place a classified ad. tfn

VOLUSIA COUNTY FLORIDA LAND BARGAIN 50+ Acres \$49,900. 600 ft. paved road. Near beaches, river, National Forest. Orlando 50 minutes. Financing Available. Atlantic Land Consultants. 888-635-5263. www.atlanticland.com. FCAN. 4/2

Tanning

WOLFF TANNING BEDS: Tan at home. Buy DIRECT and SAVE! Commercial/booth units from \$189. Low monthly payments. FREE color catalog. Call today, 800-842-1310. FCAN. 4/2

Legal Services

HEY, BAIL BONDSMEN! Your ad 'could be seen here! Call Yvonne at 561-996-4404 to place an ad in The Sun Classifieds! tfn

DIVORCE \$150*. Covers children, property division, name change, military, missing spouse, etc. One signature required. *Excludes govt. fees, uncontested. Paperwork done for you. 800-462-2000. Budget Divorce. FCAN. 4/2

ATTENTION ATTORNEYS: Let the community know you're there! Advertise with The Sun! Call Yvonne for a classified ad or Penny for an attractive display ad at 561-996-4404. tfn

Financial Services

TAX PREPARERS: It's that time of year again! Let our readers know about your services! Call Penny for an attractive display ad, or Yvonne for a classified ad in The Sun...561-996-4404. tfn

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CASH! Immediate \$99 for structured settlements and deferred insurance claims. J.G. Wentworth...888-231-5375. FCAN. 4/2

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DEBT CONSOLIDATION! Minimum \$3500 & Up. Homeowners-Business-Personal. No Equity or collateral required. No up front fees. 9am-9pm Eastern. Apply-by phone. 800-560-6662. FCAN. 4/2

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Classified ad deadline is: Monday, Noon.



Everglades Regional medical center employees bow their heads and wipe away tears as a prayer was given last Friday for the Lord to intervene and the hospital be re-opened soon.



Glades Youth Football coaches were honored at a barbecue last Saturday for their work helping the youth of the Glades. Shown, from left are Dan Bythwood, Quin Smith, Michael Johnson, Tony Myers, Curtis Stambaugh (accepting a plaque for Chief of Police Mike Miller for donations made by the Belle Glade Police Department) and Charles Butler.

Everglades Regional...Continued from Page 1

Palm Beach County Health Care District to operate the hospital. Licensing paperwork can take over two months, but city officials are asking the paperwork be expedited.

During the special meeting, Dr. Alfredo Roberts told commissioners he has been in contact with several local doctors who will try to get the funding to re-open the hospital. He said he has contacted a New York attorney and a banker willing to loan the necessary money to the group if details can be worked out. "I am willing to do whatever I can to help keep this hospital open," said Dr. Roberts, who lives in Pahokee but runs a clinic in South Bay.

"This is the most devastating thing this city has ever faced," said Mayor Norman. He lashed out at members of the audience for trying to place blame for the closing. "We can Monday morning quarterback this until the

cows come home," he said, "but it doesn't make any difference now, does it? We're in too much trouble here to point fingers," he said.

Commissioner Roy Singletary said, "I believe this can be resolved. Regardless of who you blame, the hospital is closed. Let's stop pointing fingers. I have family here. All of us have family here. Fifteen miles to the nearest hospital could be too far," he said.

City Manager Ken Schenck, who also sits on the Palm Beach County Health Care District Board, told audience members he too was surprised at the closing on Friday. "I don't think anyone expected it to come to this point. Unfortunately, it has," he said.

Foodland grocery store manager Sam Boris said he is already seeing an impact on business at his store. "I expect it will get worse," he said.

Many ex-employees are seeking jobs elsewhere. A few have been hired by Glades General Hospital, which took in many of the patients of Everglades after the closing.

The hospital was the town's largest employer and will affect the city's tax base by as much as 25 percent.

In a telephone interview Monday afternoon, Cecil Bennett said he has been in contact with Dr. Roberts and is willing to listen to the proposal. He said the hospital's debt is between \$8 and \$10 million, but an additional \$6 million would be needed just to keep the hospital running.

If the district takes over the running of the hospital, Mr. Bennett said, "It will probably never be operated the way it was. We would have to consolidate (with Glades General.)"

"We're going to work through this," he said.



George B. Jones Jr. is Belle Glade's new one-man bike patrol. Residents are invited to stop and ask him questions or voice their concerns as he passes in their neighborhoods.

Pioneer Park...Continued from Page 1

reading level. "This year, we don't have any

fourth or fifth graders reading on that low level," she said.

"We only have eight third graders reading on the low level, and we have eight tutors working with them."

She said consultants from Johns Hopkins even come to the school to check on the program's progress.

The children are tested and evaluated every nine weeks, then regrouped according to ability.

Dr. Merony said the whole school also works on writing skills, but the third and fourth grades place more emphasis.

She said the third and fourth graders have departmentalized so individual teachers could focus on writing, reading or math. Like other schools on the "critical list," Pioneer Park only teaches reading, writing and math. Other subjects, such as Science and Social Studies, are

introduced as part of the reading program.

Dr. Merony said the school makes good use of the resources available from the district office. District personnel help teachers and students directly and also share ideas that have worked in other schools.

She said there has been a lot of emphasis on teacher training.

"Principal Turner asked us to all be back in early August for training," she said.

Dr. Merony said they have high hopes that this year's test scores will show a lot of improvement. "It's amazing the improvement in the children's writing from the beginning of the year," she said. "Those who couldn't even write a sentence at start of the school year can write a paragraph. We're anxious to see the scores," she said.

"Everybody has worked so hard."

Partnership needed...

Continued from Page 1

speakers of other languages," she said.

"These students don't have somebody at home to read to them, go over their spelling words, look at their math homework," she continued.

"The parents might get up at 4:30 a.m. to catch the labor bus. When they get home at night, they are too tired to do anything with the kids," she said.

"A lot of these children come from homes where there are no books," said Canal Point Elementary Principal Glennie Davis. "Even if there were books, there would be no one to read to them."

School officials are working to change attitudes and to give parents more help. Parent resource centers have been opened in elementary schools. Some schools keep computer labs open one night a week so parents can come in and learn

to use computers or work with their children on computers. PTOs host training in parenting skills and in ways the parents can work with the children to help improve test scores.

Rosenwald Elementary School has been fortunate said Principal Barbara Trembes. The school has early intervention pre-K classes; most schools only have pre-K for migrant students. Parents in the Rosenwald Elementary school zone can also receive help through the HIPPY (Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters). HIPPY educators go into the homes of 3 and 4 year olds to help the parents get the children ready to start school.

She said it has been a struggle to convince the parents and the community that education is not just the job of the schools. "We're focused on changing attitudes," she said.



Grandparents buy one-quarter of all toys sold, according to The New York Times.

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Supplement to The Sun - April 2, 1998

Forward

Welcome to our special 75th Diamond Jubilee Anniversary edition.

Your hometown newspaper has changed hands several times over its 75 year history, but one thing remains the same, our commitment to covering the local events.

This year, the City of Belle Glade will celebrate its 70th anniversary. Pahokee just celebrated its 75th Diamond Jubilee, and South Bay was incorporated in 1940. The Sun turned 75 in January.

Our early beginning

The first newspaper in the Glades was called The Everglades News and it was started by Editor/Publisher Howard Sharp in 1923 in Canal Point. At that time, Canal Point was one of the larger towns around the lake.

Sharp sold the newspaper in January 1929, saying he was retiring, "Quitting work," as he put it, because he "didn't want to work anymore, had enough

put back for a rainy day and had no more political ambitions." Sharp had served the district in the Florida House of Representatives and was a single man.

He sold the paper to Charles R. Barfield of Pahokee and Barfield changed the name to the Pahokee News and Philosophy.

The name has been changed several more times down through the years and included The Belle Glade Herald and The Pahokee Observer.

You're in for a treat

We've asked some of the old timers from Canal Point, Pahokee, Belle Glade and South Bay to share their precious stories and photos with you. In this edition you will find never before published photos and information on the pioneer spirit that shaped our area.

This isn't a complete history of the Glades and we couldn't begin to feature all the pio-

neers in this edition. It would be impossible for us to interview everyone and many of our pioneers have been written about in other publications. Volumes have been written on the Glades area and still much has gone unreported. This is a small effort to give our readers a sense of the history of the area and to invite you to celebrate with us as we recall the rich history of the Glades and the pioneers who settled on the southern shores of the "Big Waters" of Lake Okeechobee.

They were hardy souls, those first men and women who ventured to this area to settle on the southern shores of Lake Okeechobee. They came to a land infested with mosquitoes, snakes, high water and alligators, but it was also a land where the soil was fertile beyond their imagination and the air was balmy 10 months out of the year.

Historical writer Ruth Irvin describes the area well in the spring, 1979 edition of *The*

The front page photograph was taken in the early 1940's on West Ave. A, Belle Glade and was loaned to us by Fritz Stein Jr. Interviews and stories were written by Brenda Bunting and Jennie M. Sears. Thanks go to our many pioneer families who loaned us their precious photos for this special edition.

Published April 2, 1998
The Sun Newspaper
417 N.W. 16th Street, Suite #6
Belle Glade, FL 33430
561-996-4404

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Feeding the Glades Since 1975



Custard Apple, the newsletter of the Glades Historical Society. In it she says:

"The soil is called Black Gold. The Everglades, unique in the world and almost inaccessible until after the digging of the first canals before the turn of the century, had long been a land of legend and strange tales. The early explorers found a wonderland of moving water, sawgrass, exotic birds, insects, fish, animals, orchids and rare plants. They saw the thousands of birds that rose up each morning from the custard apple trees, hung with moon vines, that covered the island and the east and south shores of Lake Okeechobee.

The first farmers, most of whom came after World War I, cleared away the custard apple trees and began to grow their vegetables. They found the soil to be black, organic and remarkably fertile.

The countless years of slow vegetable decay, the low elevation, warm climate, heavy rainfall and periodic flooding built up the ground level of the land to as much as 14 ft. above bedrock. Great bird rookeries, the land laying fallow, flooding, depth and age played a part in the formation and fertility of "custard apple muck." This soil became known as "Black Gold" as the development of the land unfolded. The

following are stories from some of our pioneer families.

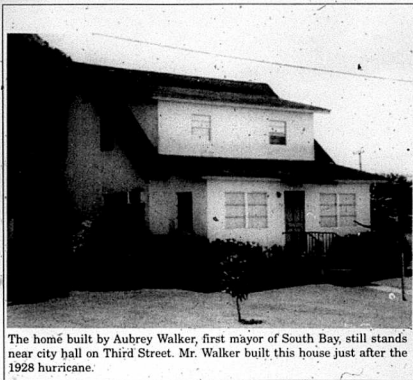
Some of the first settlers to locate on the Hillsboro Canal in the area of what was to become Belle Glade were Orville Manning and Burr Gaylord. They had each bought 40 acres of land in Section 32, but were having extreme difficulty in finding their property because it was unsurveyed.

A boat captain, H.H. "Everglades" Hart, using the known speed of the boat and a

bit of guesstimation, volunteered to take them to their land and put them ashore where he said it was.

Hart was close. Later years proved his estimate had allowed them to build the first cabin on the canal within 100 feet of their property line.

Manning was 19 and Gaylord 20 when they set about building that shack, which was located in the vicinity of the old Chamber of Commerce building on South Main Street (now a barber shop).



The home built by Aubrey Walker, first mayor of South Bay, still stands near city hall on Third Street. Mr. Walker built this house just after the 1928 hurricane.

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A tribute to Glades pioneer folks

By Clifford H. Stuart

Let me tell you a short story of two very fine folks who lived in the Glades. I do this in remembrance of a man who watched me grow up and I watched him grow old.

Mr. & Mrs. Harlan Sears were married October 13, 1929 in Alamo, Georgia. She was 14 years old and he was 21. That same year, they moved to Canal Point, Florida where Mr. Sears was employed by United States Sugar Corporation. Mr. Sears worked the night shift servicing equipment, working 12 hours at 10 cents per hour. He worked for US Sugar Corporation at various jobs for 14 years and he told me many times how thankful he was to US Sugar, at this time in his life, for giving him employment.

Harlan Sears later began to get a notion that he wanted to go in business for himself in Canal Point. He had limited education and this was a big step for him and his wife to give up the security of a steady job. This is when I first came to know Mr. Sears: I was 7 years old and the year was 1945.

Mr. & Mrs. Sears borrowed \$500 from the Bank of Pahokee and bought the Canal Point Service Station next to Dr. Young's office. During this time they were raising two sons, Harlan and Charles. Mr. Sears shared with me many stories of things that happened to him during this time. These were good and hard times for them but together with hard work and honesty they built a successful business.

In 1953, after 10 years in the gas station business, Mr. Sears sold his gas station and bought Coburn



Cliff Stewart and Harlan Sears on his 86th birthday.

Hardware Company and went into the hardware business. This was possible with the help of a farmer friend who volunteered to loan him the needed capital for a down payment. Mr. Sears and his wife were so thankful for the friendships built over the years with the people in the Glades.

In the mid 1970's they retired and moved to Port Mayaca. Around 1985 Mr. Sears began to travel with me when I would set up pumps in and outside of Florida. From 1985 to 1996 he became a second Pa to me.

Mr. Sears told me many stories that I hold dear in my heart. When he was 85 he told me how at the age of 12 his uncle owned a store. One Saturday he was asked to watch it while his uncle ran an errand. A man came in and purchased 50 cents worth of chicThey were active in church and civic affairs, Angelea having the longest continuous mem-

bership in the Canal Point United Methodistken feed. He paid in two quarters. Mr. Sears then put the 50 cents in his pocket. That night while scuffling with his brother on the floor the two quarters rolled out of his pockets. His father asked him where he got the money and when he told him, his father marched him to his uncle's house to return the money and apologize. This was a lesson he never forgot. As he told me this, tears fell on his cheeks.

At the age of 14 he was farmed out to a man outside of town who needed help plowing some new ground. He never weighed over 115 pounds soaking wet. He said the plow would hit a root or rock and he would end up in front of the plow. After two weeks of this hard work he was able to return home.

Let me tell you, Mr. Sears had a great sense of humor and loved to tell a joke. We had 10 years of good, good times together working, fishing and enjoying each others company. I will always cherish the wisdom and advise he sent my way as we shared out thoughts together. Words can not express the love and friendship that I have for Mr. and Mrs. Sears. I am so thankful that our paths crossed here on this earth and more thankful that some day we will travel together in eternity.

Mr. and Mrs. Sears character and the way they lived their lives is representative of what made America great and the Glades a great place to live.

Footnote to this article - a short chronicle of their life event was sent to me by Angelea Sears. The Sears were active in church and civic



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affairs, Angelea having the longest continuous membership in the Canal Point United Methodist Church and Harlan being a charter member of Canal Point Lions Club, a Past Master of Everglades Lodge #21 and a 60 year member. They were both active in Eastern Star where Angelea was Chaplain of that Order for 22 years. They have two children, 10 grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren.

Harlan Sears died January 11, 1998 at the age of 91 in Starkeville, Mississippi. Angelea resides with son Charles at Mansfield, Arkansas. She sends her love and prayers to many friends around the Glades where her heart will always be.

Earliest mango and avocado business in Canal Point

In 1900 his parents came to the United States from Sweden. His father did not like the cold weather so he wanted to get away. The family first moved to California and traveled to Ft. Myers, Florida on a train. When they arrived in Florida that year it had snowed.

The Erickson's had two boys and a girl and on May 30, 1910 Floyd was born. In 1911, the day before Christmas, the Erickson's moved to Canal Point.

Mr. Erickson was a carpenter so when they moved to Canal Point he bought property and built a house for his family. At this time the lake level was much higher and only 20 feet from their house. Next door to their house he built another house and 100 feet south from their house he built a two-story hotel. Behind the hotel he built another two-story building which was a store with living quarters above.

During this time there was no more carpentry work for his father, so he started commercial fishing, which was popular at this time. He bought a two large, flat bot-

tom boats. One to carry the seine in and the other for the fish. Mr. Erickson did this for several years to support his wife and three children.

In 1923 Mr. Erickson decided to take the family on a trip back to Sweden to visit relatives. "I remember it was quite a trip," says Floyd. They took a train to New York and a boat all the way to Sweden.

Until 1926 they had never heard of a hurricane. That year they experienced two hurricanes.

Floyd's mother and father had little education, but in the early 1900's that's how things were. His father felt that there was a need for a school due to all of the children in Canal Point. Mr. Erickson went to the county seat in West Palm Beach. The only way to get there was on the Hillsboro Canal to Ft. Lauderdale and from there you had to catch a train to West Palm.

When he went before the schoolboard they told him that if Canal Point provided

a house they would send a teacher.

The school board sent Amanda Schneifer to teach in Canal Point. The school had 8 grades.

In 1914 Floyd started school at the age of 4. He would peak his head over the fence to the school and so the teacher told his parents to let him come to school.

The school was the first school on that part of the Lake Okeechobee.

Floyd's brother, Carl, had finished school in the 8th grade and began helping his father fishing. With his earned money Carl bought a new Ford Roadster for \$300.

Carl later received his high school GED and went to Madison College in Tennessee and became a registered nurse (RN). He later married.

On a visit to see the family, Carl and his wife brought a friend named Easter, who became Floyd's wife in 1940.



Pictured L to R - Joseph Robert, Floyd, Dale and Easter Erickson



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In 1928 Floyd graduated from high school and that summer he went to the University of Florida and graduated in 1933, which was a depression year. At this time a college graduate with an education degree could earn \$80 a month.

Floyd remembers paying only \$300 a year for college tuition.

After graduating from college with a degree in agriculture, there were no jobs because of the depression. At this time Floyd began to farm with his father.

A very memorable experience stood out in Floyd's life. This was a time when Floyd and Bill, and a friend named Carl Anderson were young boys. They decided to take a hunting trip with their dog. All they took was a gallon of water.

On the way their dog was bitten by a cottonmouth snake. It made the dogs paw swell. They headed towards the woods. When they set into the woods the dog began to follow a trail. He came to a tree and was barking up the tree. As Floyd, Carl and Bill arrived to the dogs' call, the dog had bayed a raccoon in a tree.

Some time had passed and the boys didn't have food so they killed the raccoon and built a fire and cooked the meat. Since they were out of water, they dug a hole till they hit water to drink.

By the time they headed home they had walked six miles. As they headed home someone in a little truck drove by and picked them up and drove them about one mile from their home and gave them some food because Floyd had gotten sick. The last mile they walked to get home, Carl and Bill had to carry Floyd home because he had gotten so sick.

In 1918 their dad bought a horse and wagon. This was their means of transportation. They would travel back and forth from Indiantown.

After a while his father began to grow vegetables. In 1960 Floyd decided to grow mangos and avocados. People had told him that he could not grow mangos in the muck, but he persisted until he accomplished the task.

One year, the lake level was so high that all the water gave his avocado trees a root disease and they died. He then replaced them with mango trees.

Floyd and Easter were married for 52 years and had two sons, Joseph Robert Erickson, born in 1943 and Dale Erickson, born in 1950.

Their son Joseph went away to college and Dale decided to stay home, get a job and marry. Together, Floyd and Dale continued to build the family business which is called Lyn-Dale's Fruit and Gifts Inc.

Mr. Erickson is retired and now helps out a around the business.

Floyd was a member of the Mango Forum and was President of the Lions Club.

Pahokee family entertains first woman sent to Congress from Florida

It all began in 1915 when Kathryn's father moved to Pahokee because he had heard news of the fertile soil and excellent growing conditions.

In that same year her mother was also moving to Pahokee and living with a cousin named Blanch Armstrong, who later became one of Pahokee's first women on the council, and her husband Dr. Armstrong. The Armstrongs had lived in Colorado,

moved to Ft. Pierce and then to Pahokee.

In 1919 Mr. Rice (Kathryn's father) and some friends built a house and had it ready for his bride, Pauline (Kathryn's mother), before their wedding on March 4. The lumber for the house was brought across Lake Okeechobee by barge and floated to shore.

On March 7, 1920 Kathryn Rice was born in a house on Okeechobee Road in West Palm Beach. Her parents had to travel on the Palm Beach Canal, before they had Connors Highway, to Ms. Laraby's Maternity Home.

In 1923 Arthur and Pauline Rice gave birth to their second child, a baby boy.

Mrs. Rice entertained many guests who came to the Glades, including Ruth Bryan Owen, daughter of William Jennings Bryan. Mrs. Owen was the first woman to be sent to Congress from Florida.



Kathryn as a baby.

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The Arthur Rice home on Bacom Point Road, across the street from the Loula V. York Library, is the original structure throughout, with the exception of the front porch, which was blown away during a hurricane.

Katherine (Rice) Fountain relates that as a child she and her brother, Edwin, would climb up into a tree-house, and watch the guests and activities below.

The Arthur Rice home on Bacom Point Road, across the street from the Loula V. York Library, is the original structure throughout, with the exception of the front porch, which was blown away during a hurricane.

On June 4, 1937 Kathryn graduated from High School.

Kathryn recalls Dr. Spooner as being a big influence in the community. He contributed a lot of his time and talents to the people of Pahokee. Dr. Spooner also deliv-

ered two of Kathryn's children, among the other 5,000 babies he delivered in Pahokee.

Kathryn says, "Pahokee was a lot different than it is today, there were more stores."

When asked how have things have changed since the 30's and 40's, Kathryn replied, "Well, the old timers are gone, we don't have too many left. They've either died or moved away."

From 1950-62 Kathryn worked for Kahns Department Store in Belle Glade.

In 1962 Joe Kahn moved the store to Pahokee. Later, the store was moved back to Belle Glade by Kathryn's son David and her grandson Eddie Cruz. Kathryn

worked for Mr. Kahn for a total of 32 years. She was also manager of the Children's Shop in Belle Glade for 7 years.

Kathryn has played the piano, since she was a teenager, at the First United Methodist Church. She has been a member of that church all of her life.

After World War II Kathryn's husband worked for the Post Times in the in West Palm Beach. He would make deliveries to Pahokee and that is how they met. They were married on March 24, 1940. After their marriage he worked for the Bell Telephone Company. They decided to move to West Palm Beach for a year due to his job.

In 1942 Kathryn's father, Arthur,

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Watching the birds...Kathryn's three sons.



Kathryn as a teen

died and Kathryn and her husband moved back to Pahokee to care for her mother.

On January 14, 1974 Kathryn's husband died.

In her spare time Kathryn likes to play the piano and she walks for miles a day.

One of the earliest grocery stores in Pahokee

Mr. Baines came to Pahokee in 1947 from Miami. He came to Pahokee to care for his father and decided to stay. In 1951 he sent for his family in Miami and they moved to Pahokee. In the 50's the Baines traveled in an old Chevy pick-up truck. Mrs. Baines recalls traveling only on dirt roads. "It would take all day long just to travel to Miami due to the poor conditions," said Mrs. Baines.

Elisha Baines worked in agriculture for many years. For more than 50 years, he owned and operated Baines Superette, a grocery store in the City of Pahokee. Before 1972 this grocery store was called Mary White and son.

He has served on numerous boards including: Everglades Regional Medical Center, Palm Beach County Health Planning Council Board and The Legal Service Board.

Mr. Baines has received a multitude of awards including: Unsung Hero Award - PBC Imperial Men and Women's Club, Outstanding Service Award - Pahokee Chamber of Commerce, Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Award - Concerned Citizens of Pahokee, Outstanding Service to Community Award - CYCI and Parents on Patrol and Paul Rogers Service Award.

He is a 50 year member of Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, Rev. Larry White, Pastor.

He has been married to Lucy Baines for over 50 years. They have three daughters. Dorothy Vereen, who died in 1985, Jeraldine Killingsworth who died in 1997. They put all of their girls at Florida Memorial University and they



Elisha "Buddy" White Baines received the Pioneer of the Year Award at the 1998 Pahokee Chamber Banquet



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all received Masters degrees in Education. Jeroline Frost is a teacher at Belle Glade Elementary School.

They have also raised a granddaughter named Syria Frost, who went off to college, received her Bachelor degree in psychology and returned to live with them.

The Baines enjoy watching football and have attended almost every football bowl.

"I think that Pahokee has changed a lot, for the better. More children stay in school longer and go to college. Many buildings have been torn down but many businesses have come to Pahokee," says Mrs. Baines. "The Chamber is more active than it was back then. There use to be only one or two people at the Chamber meetings and now there are more. Pahokee is a nice community."

Postal Clerk in the 40's

This pioneer was born in Mississippi on May 11, 1905 to Whiteford and Fanny Singleton Todd. In 1914, the family moved to Plant City, FL.

In July of 1918, they boarded Captain John's boat, the *Osceola*, and came across the lake to make their home in East Beach which was later named Pahokee. They lived in the Red Top Packing House until their own house was built on Bacom Point Road.

After a short-lived marriage which produced a son called "Tiny", this early resident worked in a dry goods store in Canal Point, later gaining ownership of the store.

During World War II, when goods of all kind were scarce, the store was closed and she became a postal clerk, remaining in that position for 25

years until retirement.

While we are honoring his mother, let us remember Tiny Todd who worked without great recognition to make the Glades a better place.

Former longtime Pahokee Mayor's wife remembers the early days.

This family left Tulsa, Oklahoma on August 2, 1921. They went to a relatives home in West Palm Beach. While in West Palm they met a man who told them of a place called Pahokee and said that this would be a good place to buy land and settle.

They came to Pahokee and bought five acres of land and built a house for the family. At this period Pahokee was made up of farmers. The houses were built up on stilts in case the lake level rose the houses would not flood.

When the family left West Palm to take a trip to see the country side, as they called it, they traveled in a truck to Padgett Island to Mrs. Noble Padgett's house.

Lilian says that she recalls walking into Mrs. Padgett's house and her son was sitting in a chair with his legs propped up. As she walked in he stood up and they were introduced. Lilian was 14 at the time. This young man, Duncan Padgett, later became her husband.

Lilian went to school in Pahokee her first year of high school and her second year all of the students were bused to the School of Agriculture in Canal Point. There was just a sandy road all the way there. In 1925 Lilian was one of the first two to graduate from high school in the Glades area. She and Duncan began dating in high school.

In 1928 a hurricane was about to hit Pahokee. Lilian and her family lived on Bacom Point Road. The day of the hurricane Lilian's father went to her house saying, that he had heard on the radio that a hurricane was coming their way. He wanted them to go to their house for shelter because his house was on higher ground. They had not realized how serious this hurricane was until they looked outside and saw their neighbors house float up against theirs.

During the eye of the storm Lilian recalls everything got real still. "You could hear a pin drop it was so still," says Lilian. The pressure got real low then all of a sudden it began again and that's when the dike broke and people began to drown.

After the weather settled Lilian, her husband and her sister decided they would go see what damages were done to her house. There was no where to walk. Water, trees and buildings were scattered on the roads.

When they arrived at her house it was still standing but had floated off of its foundation. It hit a Cypress tree in the yard and that is what kept the house in place. Her neighbors house had floated away.

When they entered the house it was knee deep in mud. The mattresses in the house were salvaged.

After the storm they had decided to go to West Palm until there house was repaired. Her sister was expecting a child at any time and her husband, Duncan, was ill at the time. Lilian had an uncle in West Palm who had left for Kansas for the summer so they stayed at his house while he was away.

Lilian recalls that before they left to West Palm the day after the hurri

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cane, people began stacking bodies into trucks and hauling them to the Port Mayaca Cemetery.

When life in Pahokee got back to normal the ladies of the community created the Women's Club. They got together once a month with their families. There was not any electricity, phones or televisions at the time, so for entertainment the families would gather at the lake and go swimming.

In 1928 Lilian's family gathered at her house for Christmas dinner. That day her sister gave birth to a child in Lilian's house.

Lilian had four children. The oldest is Donald, then Joy, Calvin and Thomas. Lilian has 12 grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren and 1 great great grandchild.

From 1960 to 1986 Duncan Padgett was Mayor of Pahokee before he died. Lilian was the secretary at the Chamber of Commerce for 8 years during her husbands career as Mayor. "We worked well together," said Lilian. They were married on April 30, 1926 and were married 60 years until his death.

Mrs. Padgett now runs her trailer park and babysits her grandson, who is 5 years old. She has been a member of the Methodist Church in Pahokee for 53 years.

A family with a legacy of service

In 1930 Herman and Ruth Wedgworth arrived in Belle Glade. The community consisted of a few farms, a packing house or two, one grocery store, one drugstore and one doctor.

Ruth was born in Eaton Rapids, Michigan, in 1903. She graduated from Eaton Rapids High School and attended Michigan State College where she studied in the applied sci-

ence division for two years. This is where she worked across the chemistry bench from Herman H. Wedgworth, whom she married at the end of her sophomore year. After Mr. Wedgworth received his Master's degree, they went to Mississippi, and then to Cornell University, where he worked on his Ph.D. degree.

In April, 1930, they came to Florida to the Everglades Experiment Station. They began to farm in the fall of 1932, growing principally celery. Ruth worked alongside her husband taking care of the harvesting, while he attended to the packing house and selling.

Herman H. Wedgworth was born at Lauderdale, Mississippi in 1901.


He received a bachelor's degree from Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical College and a master's degree from Michigan State College in his chosen field of plant pathology. During his time he made many dis-



Herman H. Wedgworth covers that now benefit the Glades farmers. They include discoveries in



The Wedgworth home still stands on the grounds of the Experiment Station in Belle Glade.



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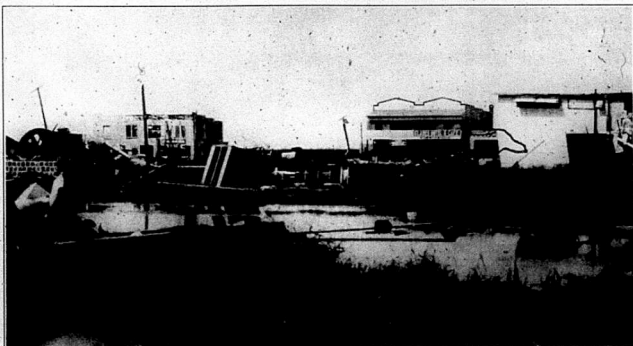
The Wedgworth family

and had three small children to support, but she quickly assumed control of the family farm, building it into one of the state's premier agricultural operations. Known for her astute business judgment, Mrs. Wedgworth saw the potential of sugarcane and was a charter member of the Sugar

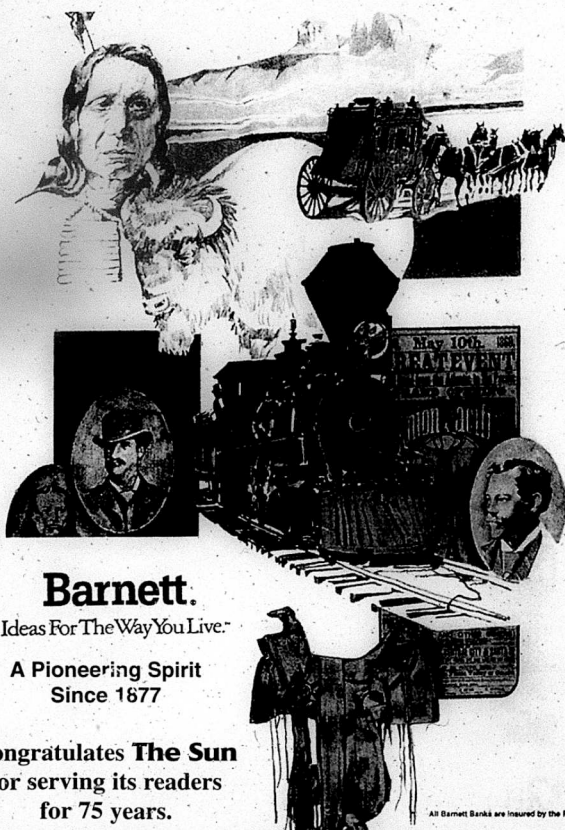
Cane Growers Cooperative and a key organizer of the Florida Celery Exchange. At the age of 88, Mrs. Wedgworth still kept office hours as the matriarch and President of Wedgworth Inc. She was inducted into the Florida Agricultural Hall of Fame in 1988, only the second

woman to be so honored.

The children of Herman H. and Ruth S. Wedgworth - their son, George H. Wedgworth and their daughters, Helen Jean Boynton and Barbara A. Oetzman, believe they are continuing the legacy of service started by their parents.



Downtown Belle Glade after the 1928 hurricane that killed over 2,000 people in the area. In the forefront are the Glades Hotel and Cafe.



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The First Mayor of South Bay

South Bay's first mayor, Aubrey Otis Walker, came to the area in 1922 with his wife, Mallie Fay. He was 26 and she was 18 when they came from Panama City.

He came at the urging of his brother, H.D. Walker, who told him of the fertile soil. Aubrey came and cleared some high spots of land and began growing beans.

His daughter, Quinon Walker Shiver, still lives in Belle Glade and remembers growing up in South Bay.

"I was born in a little shack in South Bay. Most of the residents in the area settled along the canal because that was the mail route from Ft. Lauderdale and mail and supplies came and went by boat," she said.

Mr. Walker furnished the mules and helped build the first school house in South Bay. Children from the Palm Beach County line, including Bare Beach, Lake Harbor and Bean City attended South Bay School. "The school housed grades one through 11, then you had to go to Pahokee to graduate because it was an accredited school," said Quinon Shiver.

"The South Bay school was a wonderful school," said Mrs. Shiver. "The teachers were so dedicated. They saw us as a community that had no cultural activities, except church and they used to take time with us, even on Saturdays. We put on plays, operetta's."

It was an ideal childhood growing up in South Bay, she remembers, even though her mother told stories of those early days of "snakes as big



Quinon Shiver is shown with Daniel "Shorty" Shiver in front of Belle Glade High School in 1942. The couple were childhood sweethearts, graduated together in 1944 and later married.

around as her waist and panthers everywhere."

The mosquitoes were also terrible. "Everyone had their own milk cows and you would have to put them in a screened-in closure, and burn smudge pots because the mosquitoes were so terrible they would kill a cow," she said.

Mrs. Shiver reminisces about her childhood and said, "South Bay used to be one of the best places in the world to raise your children. It was a community settlement."

She was only two years old when the deadly 1928 hurricane tore through the town, but she says she remembers the terror of that fateful

night when so many lost their lives.

"I know you'd think I wouldn't remember much, but I do remember we all piled up in a work boat. The barometer got so low, all the children slept because there wasn't enough air. The only ones who survived in South Bay that night were those who were in that boat," she said.

After the storm, which killed over 2,000 people in the Glades, the women and children were taken to West Palm Beach. "We were taken in a dump truck. Mom was seven months pregnant with my sister, Dorothy 'Puggy' Warren. There were no paved roads. We were an isolated people. It was a new country here," said Mrs. Shiver.

South Bay, was incorporated as a town in 1940, and Aubrey Walker was elected mayor in 1941. "My father could see the potential of South Bay. One of his main concerns was getting water here. Everyone relied on rain water and canal water."

After the storm, he built a two story house in town, which still stands near city hall on third Street. Mr. Walker died at an early age of kidney failure. He was 44.

Mrs. Shiver is now a widow. She and her late husband, Daniel (Shorty) Shiver were childhood sweethearts. He died in 1989. They had three sons and two daughter, Daniel, who works at Hugh Branch; Michael, a CPA in Belle Glade; Diane Leigh of Orlando; Donald Aubrey "Bo", who lives on a sailboat in the Rivera; and Dorothy Magill of Wellington, who owns a business in Belle Glade.



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Clarence Pate was just a baby when this picture was taken in 1922.

One pioneer tells of early days

Clarence Pate is an old timer with a pretty good memory. He came to the Glades in 1922 with his parents Tom and Janie Pate, when he was just a year old. His father drove down old U.S. No. 1 highway where some sections brick was used for the road bed. "In fact, we have some of those old bricks in our back yard," Clarence said. After arriving at the turn around in West Palm Beach, the old Model T Ford was put on a barge, then towed to Belle Glade by way of Canal Point, around the lake through the Belle Glade Locks at Chosen then pushed off the barge on to the ditch bank on what is now West Canal Street, North. On that

barge were Clarence, two half brothers and his Mom and Dad. Why come on a barge you might ask? That was the only way to get here from West Palm Beach.

"My father was well acquainted with a Bill Taylor who owned a small tract of land in the area. Dad was convinced of the great potential offered here in the Glades," said Clarence.

Mr. Pate made a living in those early days catching raccoons and selling the hides. He also grew beans and other vegetables. He helped survey SR 441 from Belle Glade to Pahokee.

Clarence Pate was six years old when the 1928 hurricane came



This photo was taken in the mid-1930s at the home of W.C. and Effie Allen in South Bay. Shown, from right are: Harold Webb, (bookkeeper for Mr. Will), Lawrence and Ann Will, Mrs. Hartline, (postmistress of South Bay for many years); William Grear (the first mayor of Belle Glade) and his wife; Vivian Allen (sister of W.C. Allen); Mrs. Webb; (the next two women are not identified); Effie Allen and W.C. Allen; Gus Roberts, Mrs. Roberts; Mrs. Nell Scullen, Mr. Scullen (he was the manager of the South Florida Conservancy District for many years.)

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through the Glades. Fortunately, he and his family were not here at the time, but his half brother W.C. Pate was here during the storm and survived. "My brother was in the house when he heard the winds and he got under the bridge and the water started rising and he made his way down to the Fears Hotel. And that thing was full. The water came up almost to the top floor. There were a lot of people in that hotel. That hotel was just about the only thing that survived," said Clarence. "We lost everything: house, equipment and never found the old Fordson tractor. Dad became ill and died the following

year and never returned to Belle Glade," said Clarence.

"The first school I went to was in 1927. It was located in a little one room building about where the statue is now at the Belle Glade Library, and Mrs. Stump was our teacher," said Mr. Pate.

Over the years, seeing the mechanization of the area stands out in Mr. Pate's mind as one of the more important things that has happened in farming. "We went from my daddy hoeing the beans, digging a hole and planting a seed to modern tractors. First came along the Fordson tractor, with metal wheels. And the horses

had to have special shoes to keep them from sinking, the ground was so soft. Of course, over the years, by using this heavy equipment it has compacted the soil and decreased the depth of the soil," said Mr. Pate.

Even in the late 1930, there was no farming south of Bolles Canal, said Mr. Pate. "Land wasn't developed in the 1930's except about five miles around the lake," he said.

Pate owns oldest business in Belle Glade

Clarence Pate owns Pioneer Motors, the oldest business in Belle Glade. It opened its doors in 1928, as



Searching for bodies after the 1928 hurricane. This photo was taken near the Hooker Highway extension in September, 1928. The Schlechter family's shed and equipment shop was located near this point. Shown are Fritz Stein Sr., Harry Schug, Alvin Schlechter, John Schug and others.



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Pioneer Service Station, shortly before the 1928 hurricane and was previously owned by Lawrence Will, the Cracker historian.

Mr. Pate was only 17 when he began working for Mr. Will. "Did you know, Pioneer is the only place I've ever worked, except when I was in high school, I worked in a packing house in South Bay, capping off beans," said Mr. Pate.

Mr. Pate lived upstairs, over the station. He rented a room from Mr. Will for \$2. "He paid me \$10 a week and I gave him \$2 back for rent."

Clarence's employment was interrupted by WWII, serving in the Navy from July 27, 1942 to January 11, 1946. His combat tour was in the European/African Area aboard landing craft.

Upon returning to civilian life in 1948, Mr. Pate bought an interest in the business. That partnership continued until Mr. Will's death. After Mr. Will died, Clarence took over the business and continues to run it to this day with the help of his family. It is now a parts business, catering to the agriculture trade in the area.

Helping him in the business are his sons, Stephen Lee and Craig D. Pate and daughter Cindy Marie Pate Sheer and his wife, Vivian.

Fourth generation of Steins still farming in the Glades

Fritz Stein Jr.'s grandparents came to the area in 1915. Hans and his wife, Amelia Kranklus Stein, fled Latvia around the turn of the century to keep their sons from having to serve in the Russian Army. Hans brought his family in through the New York harbor and later settled in Wisconsin. He became a United States citizen in 1903 in Lincoln County, Wisconsin.

Fritz Stein Sr. was born in 1903 in Wisconsin and later the family moved to the west coast of Florida.

"In 1914, one of my great uncles wandered off down in the Everglades area here and found out that you could plant crops here and they would grow without any fertilizer. He wrote my grandfather a letter and said 'sell everything you have there in Manatee County and move down here 'cause you can put seed in the ground and it will bear fruit without any fertilizer.' So, my grandfather took his advice and loaded up his family and their belongings and their milk cow and came to the Glades."

The family came to Lakeport and hired a man with a barge to bring them across the lake. "My understanding

was their first land-fall was on Kramer Island," said Mr. Stein.

Sometime later, Hans moved his family further inland and he became the first lock tender on the lake end of the Hillsboro Canal. He build a home adjacent to the locks.

The house Hans built in Belle Glade in 1927 survived the 1928 hurricane and still stands today, down by the city, garage and dump.

Mr. Steins grandparents rode out the 1928 hurricane in their new home and all in the house survived. But Mr. Stein did lose family on his mother's side during the storm.

"On my mother's side I lost my grandparents and seven other members of their family in the 1928 hurricane," said Mr. Stein. "My mother's sister, Clara, is the only one on the Schelechter side who survived. My understanding was that my mother's family migrated from Germany."

Hans farmed small acreage around his homesite and in later years, Fritz Sr. and his brother farmed in a loose partnership.

"In 1934, my father planted some cabbage here and he had a notice they were going to have a freeze in here so he covered his plants up the night of the freeze and the



Hans Stein




Amelia Kranklus Stein

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Fritz Stein Sr., Dad Evans and a man named Gifford shown on Main Street, Belle Glade.

next day he took people out and they uncovered the plants," said Mr. Stein. "He had brought them through the freeze, so consequently, he had some of the only cabbage in the United States at that time and that's what really got him started and he got his feet on the ground," he said. From then on, Fritz Sr. expanded his farming operation and grew many crops in the Glades, including celery, beans, corn, and leaf crops. He also had some cattle. He died in 1957.

These days, Fritz Jr. farms sugarcane. "I wanted a little stability," he said. "The big changes I have seen in the

Glades has been in the sugar business," said Mr. Stein.

Prior to the 1960s, very little of the Everglades Agricultural Area was being farmed and most of that was in vegetable crops.

When Castro took over Cuba in 1959, Mr. Stein and others began forming Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative in 1960.

"We saw an opportunity to put some stability in the ag industry here in the Glades," said Mr. Stein. The Cooperative started grinding its first crop in November of 1962.

Today, Fritz and Lois Stein have six grown children: Sonny, Julie, Robbie, Stewart, Michael and Timmy Stein, and numerous grandchildren. In 1989, the Stein family was named Farm Family of the Year by the Western Palm Beach County Farm Bureau. A fifth generation of Steins are now growing up in the Glades and will someday hopefully continue the legacy of farming in the Everglades Agricultural Area.

Layde Franke and family still giving back to the community

Layde Franke came to the Glades with her family sometime before the 1926 hurricane that devastated Moore Haven.

Her sister, Ora Powell and her husband had moved to Pahokee and Layde Franke and her mother and another sister and two brothers followed.

"It was bad, really bad here when we first came. There were mosquitoes and all kinds of insects," said Layde Franke. Layde worked in a department store in Pahokee and attended high school in Pahokee.



Clyde Crosby, (first husband of Layde Franke,) in the 1930's



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She married Clyde Crosby in 1930 in Moor Haven and then they came back to Belle Glade and they had three children, C.W., who now works for A Duda, Gloria (Swager) and Don, who lives in Oak Hill, Florida.

Gloria was born in her grandmother's home on Banyon Avenue in December of 1933. "Daddy had left mother at grandmothers and had gone fox hunting in north Florida, so he missed my birth," said Gloria. "When he came back, there I was," she said.

Layde Franke was living in

Loxahatchee when the 1928 hurricane roared through the area. She said she remembers how instrumental Lawrence Will and Dr. Buck were after the storm in helping the survivors and cleaning up the area.

In 1939 Clyde and Layde opened a store called Vaughn & Wright, a wholesale automotive parts company. Layde worked in that store with her husband for several years.

Gloria attended the old Belle Glade High School and graduated in 1951. There were 44 graduates of the Class of 1951 and Gloria was the salutatorian of her class.

rian of her class.

"It was a wonderful place to grow up in," said Gloria. "Everyone knew everyone and if you saw a car coming, you put your hand up 'cause you knew that person," she said.

"Even back then we had a tremendous football team. We always played Pahokee on Thanksgiving eve. We had some kind of cup that was passed back and forth between the two schools," she said. "It was quite a rivalry."

Gloria's future husband, Tom Swager, came to Belle Glade in 1958 to run Ventura Ranch, a vegetable and cattle operation in the area.

Today, Layde Franke continues to stay active. She is been a member of the volunteer auxiliary at Glades General Hospital for 25 years. "I plan to stay active as long as I can," she said.

Gloria has tried to keep the history of the area alive as a member of the Glades Historical Society, but she said interest has waned in the last few years and the organization is now dissolved.

Anderson was the first City Clerk in Belle Glade

Frank and Virginia Anderson moved to Belle Glade Sept. 1, 1947 with their three-year-old daughter, Pat.

Mr. Anderson had relatives living in the area and Florida National Bank offered him a job as an assistant cashier. He worked there for two years.

The Andersons still live in the



Frank Anderson, early 1960s



The home the Andersons bought in 1947 when they moved to Belle Glade survived the 1947 hurricane. The Andersons still live in their home at 209 N.W. Avenue I, in Belle Glade to this day.



The old Belle Glade Waterworks in the early 1950s. Frank Anderson is on the far right on the back row.

home they bought in 1947, built by Hooker-Jones Company. "We had to buy it because there were no places to rent here," said Mrs. Anderson.

In Nov. 1949, Frank went to work for the City of Belle Glade as their first city clerk. He wore many hats.

"The city at that time had a population of 7,588," said Mr. Anderson. There were only four employees working at city hall at that time, including Mr. Anderson. He was the city clerk, clerk of the court, tax assessor, tax collector, and supervisor of registration. The water department was a separate part.

Virginia was already working for

the city as a secretary for the city commissioners, a job she started in 1948. Employees included Mr. Anderson, Lois Davis, Virginia Anderson and another clerk.

City hall at that time was located where the old police department is now at 33 West Avenue A.

Mr. Anderson was the city's finance director between 1958 and 1961 and retired as the city's finance director. He was the acting city manager nine times during his tenure at the city. He watched the city grow from a population of about 7,500 to 18,000 and the city's budget grow from around \$200,000 to between 11 and 13 mil-

lion dollars when he left.

He said he has seen many improvements over the years. There have been water plant improvements, the golf course was built and has since expanded to 18-holes, two city pools were built, a new fire station, new city hall in 1978 and a lot of storm drainage improvements. "There were very few street lights when I went to work for the city," he said.

"Belle Glade was a great place to live and we had a lot of people who helped us along the way," said Mrs. Anderson. "We've always enjoyed living in Belle Glade. If not, we wouldn't continue to live here," she said.



The Belle Glade Fair Exhibit was held at the American Legion Hall. Virginia Anderson is shown demonstrating the new freezers at that time. The year was about 1949. The men on the left are not identified.

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Mr. Anderson loaned this picture of several city employees attending the wedding and reception of Patsy and Paul Hawkins on Oct. 13, 1956. Patsy is shown standing. Seated, from left are: Clarence E. Robinson, Belle Glade's second city manager; Frank C. Anderson, city clerk; Z.T. Ingram, city commissioner; and Clarence Tilton, tax collector.

Mrs. Anderson went on to work for Glades Appliance, owned by Billy Weeks. (Billy Weeks son, J. Stephen Weeks, is now Mayor of Belle Glade.)

Glades Appliance is now Seminole Supply.

Frank Anderson retired from the City of Belle Glade Dec. 31, 1986, after working for the city over 37 years. He had 13 employees when he retired and he stayed on as a consultant for 18 months after his retirement.

Virginia opened Town & County Shop in 1966 and keep the shop open for 17 years. "That was a great little shopping center," said Virginia. "It's a shame we don't have anything like that anymore. At one time, we had

three nice little dress shops in town."

"Kids had a wonderful time growing up here. We used to love football games and there was a Teen Town. Frank was a chaperone. It was on the east side of Main Street. It was a place kids could come on Friday night and spin records and dance" she said.

Teach your children well

Mercedes Robinson came to Pahokee in August of 1947. She came to the area when education was launched in the Glades. When she retired after 39 years of teaching she was honored as someone who "shouldered the challenge, explored the

boundaries, and reached for excellence in her demanding profession."

She attended Bethune-Cookman for two years and then went to Fisk University for one year on a scholarship before beginning her teaching career.

In a tribute to Mrs. Robinson in 1990's Black Gold Jubilee booklet, it was written, "Mercedes Robinson enjoyed her own rise to stardom in education. In addition to being a classroom teacher from 1947-1965, she was the first Glades area resource teacher, a specialist in elementary education, principal of East Lake Middle School, the first and only black female area assistant

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superintendent, and an area administrator of elementary education."

When Mercedes came to teach second grade at East Lake School in Pahokee she said, "The schools then were a far cry from the modern air-conditioned complexes of today."

She lived in the school that had a little house out back with a kitchen and dining room out back with an old burner stove.

In the back of the school was a big room and four teachers lived bunked in that room. "Each of us had a bed and a dresser. The principal had her own room where she stayed," said

Mercedes.

There were about four or five classrooms and Mrs. Robinson taught 95 second graders. She taught there from 1947 until 1954.

Mercedes married Earl Robinson in 1948. He was a barber in Belle Glade. She was working at Pahokee Elementary at the time.

In 1954 she went to Lake Shore Elementary School after her son, Kenneth was born and she worked there until 1965.

During the summers, she would go to school in the summer. "That was my husband's dream, that I further

my education," she said. At that time, she just had an Associate of Arts Degree. She got her BS degree in 1951.

"My husband insisted I go back to school and I insisted I didn't want to go back to school," said Mrs. Robinson. "He died before I got my master's. He died in 1963 and I got it in 1965. I wouldn't haven't gotten as far as I did without his support."

In 1965 she was recruited to become a resource teacher. John Martin with the county office hired her as a resource teacher. "Then I had to come out of the classroom and



The board of directors for the Glades Livestock market are shown here in the early 1950s. From left are: "Little Doc" VanLandingham, Edith VanLandingham, Mrs. Pearce, Lealand Pearce, Jane Evans, John Evans, Edwina Young, George Young, Ruth Stein, Fritz Stein, Mrs. Knight, and Thurmond Knight.

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I didn't want to come out of the classroom. I told him I was really happy where I was and I was enjoying my small class."

He told her, "Well, you're touching about 25 lives, but you'll touch more than that in this job, so you're coming out of the classroom."

"He told me 'if what I've heard about you is true, you'll never get back to the classroom,' and I never did go back into the classroom," said Mrs. Robinson.

There was a white resource teacher and a black resource teacher, and that's how Mrs. Robinson said she met Katherine Cunningham. (Canal Point Elementary School is now named after the late Mrs. Cunningham.)

"We became inseparable for years, and years and years. She was such a nice woman," she said.

She worked in an office at the old Belle Glade Elementary School. Margaret Mosley was the supervisor.

"When we left there, we went out to the West Area. They got that first portable and we worked there under Jim Mann," she said.

Mrs. Robinson says she remembers 1971, the first year of integration. She had been sent back to East Lake in 1971 as principal and David Hill was her assistant. She stayed there until 1975. "By then, I didn't want to leave."

"East Lake was really on the map as far as education and I traveled everywhere, talking to others about teaching migrant children," she said.

These days, Mrs. Robinson stays active by volunteering at her church and on several boards in the commu-

nity. "I have a hard time saying 'no,' but I try not to do as much as I used to," she said.

Gove school named after Sandra Chamblee's mother

In the 1920's Sandra Chamblee's mother, Genevieve Brown, came to the area from Georgia. Her sister, Sue Brown Royal, had married George Royal and they moved to the Glades.

"They told my mother this was a land of plenty and a land of promise, so my mother and her

younger sister and her parents moved to South Bay."

For a while, they lived with the Royals and then built a house and a rooming house behind the home. Francis "Fanny" Brown took in boarders to earn extra money to keep the family afloat. Sandra's grandfather, Charles Brown, was a farmer who also liked to fish. Genevieve was just 16 when her family came to the Glades in 1929 or 1930. She went to school in Pahokee, which

had the only high school in the Glades at that time. "The kids rode



Genevieve and Henry Shimer Gove Jr.

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to school on a homemade school bus that they called the chicken coop," said Sandra Chamblee. One of the older students drove the bus.

Genevieve graduated in 1932. Also graduating in her class were Lewis and Gethie Friend of Pahokee and the late Rupert Mock.

After graduation, Genevieve attended the Florida State College for Women. She went to Tallahassee on a bus. "I remember her telling the story that she wanted her dress a different color and she dyed her dress with coffee and it worked and it was a beautiful shade of tan."

She roomed with Virginia Stuckey who was also from Pahokee. Genevieve got a two year degree and

came back to South Bay and began teaching first grade. She lived at home with her parents. With the money she earned her first year teaching she put indoor plumbing in her parent's house.

She began dating Henry Shimer Gove, Jr. from Moore Haven. His father was the county engineer in Moore Haven.

"My parents lived in Moore Haven and my mother started teaching school there and I was conceived in Moore Haven, but they then moved to Eustise, Florida in 1939 and I was born in Eustise in 1940."

As a young man Henry had worked for Ivan Van Horn, who had the oil company in Belle Glade. Since he

had that knowledge, he started a Standard Bulk Oil business in Moore Haven. Genevieve quit work to be a full time homemaker. The Browns had two more children, Karen and Gwen. Karen is now Karen Hayes and she lives in West Palm and Gwen Taylor, who now lives in Brandon. Both are teachers.

When Sandra was only six years old and Gwen was six months old, her parents divorced.

"My mother came back home to where her family was living. The first year we lived in an apartment in downtown Belle Glade near where Case Rate and later Jam Roc grocery store was located.

In 1948 Genevieve went back to



The Gove family...From left, Gwen Gove (now Taylor), Karen Gove (now Hayes), Genevieve Brown Gove and Sandra Gove (now Chamblee).

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teaching school at Belle Glade Elementary.

They later rented an apartment from the Hookers while Genevieve has having a home built for herself and her children. The apartment out at Hookers had been two apartments. To get upstairs to the bedrooms you had to go outside to a stairway. Sandra said that during the 1949 hurricane, the eye of the storm came across and her baby sister, Gwen was upstairs in one of the bedrooms.

Sandra's Aunt Sue Royal and her son, Charles, were staying with them

at the time and she said Sue and her mother had gone upstairs to check on Gwen during the eye of the storm.

"I'll never forget. My sister, Karen and Charles and I were downstairs and my mother and Aunt Sue were upstairs with Gwen. They would hit on the floor with a shoe heel and we would hit on the ceiling with a broom handle. During that terrible storm, that's how we kept in touch with each other," said Sandra.

The next day there were dead animals floating everywhere. "That was before we had the storm warnings we have today," said Sandra.

Genevieve later moved her children into their home in N.W. Avenue C. "Mother was smart. She knew she had to support herself and three daughters, so she built an apartment that had two apartments upstairs and four bedrooms and two baths downstairs. We stayed in the two bedrooms and we rented out the other two bedrooms," said Sandra.

It was the children's jobs to clean the rooms and wash the linens and clean the bathrooms for the renters.

During the summer, Genevieve would go back to school to get her four year degree from the University



Genevieve Gove was part of the faculty staff at Belle Glade Elementary School in the photo taken in 1958. Shown first row, left to right are Kathryn Davidson, Gladys Geer, Genevieve Gove, Helen Spooner, Margaret West. Second row: Patricia Chamblee, Leta Lanier, Edythe Murray, Mrs. Myers, Miss Rogers. Third row: Lois Ruff, Inez Dickinson, Sue Geer, Ann Lovell, Miss O'Kelley. Fourth row: Lydia McClure, Mr. Myers, Mrs. Hotard, Mr. Morris.



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From left are Dr. Robert L. Hatton and his wife, Marian, Roger Hatton and Carol (Hatton) Arline.

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of Florida, She graduated in 1952.

Genevieve Gove believed in the multiplication tables. "No child left her fifth grade classroom without knowing their multiplication tables all the way through their twelves," said Sandra.

She was a forward thinking educator. She believed every child had their own special gift. "Maybe that child wasn't good at math, but they could draw or the child had a certain talent and she would search out that talent and she would capitalize on it," said Sandra.

She also believed in sharing with others less fortunate. Sandra tells the story of having only two pairs of shoes, a pair for school and pair of Sunday shoes.

"I came home from school one day

and my Sunday shoes were gone. I was really upset because they were the best shoes I had."

When Sandra questioned her mother about her shoes her mother told her she had taken her Sunday shoes and given them to a girl in her class. "I'll never forget. She told me, 'but you had two pairs and she had none.'"

Sandra grew up and met and married James Chamblee, June 20, 1959.

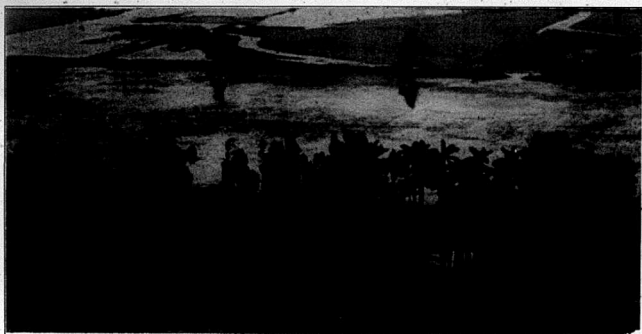
Their first child was a son, Jimmy. After the birth of their son, Sandra's mother Genevieve, discovered she had breast cancer. She continued to teach school, but only lived 14 months after having a mastectomy. She died in March of 1962.

"She left such a legacy in her short life that when they planned to build

a new elementary school in the next year, it was decided the school would be named in her memory and her honor. To my knowledge, Gove school is still the only school named after a classroom teacher. So, it's quite an honor to have the school named after her.

"All of her students truly, truly loved her. I still have people who express their appreciation for the education that she helped them get, the love that she gave them," said Sandra Gove Chamblee.

Today, Sandra and James have two grown children, Jimmy and Lynn Chamblee Anderson, and several grandchildren. Grandson Clay attends Gove Elementary where a portrait of his great grandmother is displayed for all to see.



Kramer Island after the 1947 hurricane

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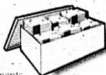
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